



ISSUES AND PROGRAMS REPORT

FOR

STATION WPTF

**1st QUARTER 2014
(January 1st – March 31st)**

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Station Program Director: Brian Freeman

Report compiled by:
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WPTF PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS COMMUNITY ISSUES

WPTF operates an "All News, All Day" format that includes "in-depth" news coverage. Many of the "news segments" that air each weekday deal with issues of politics, economy, human relations, morality, and other general topics affecting the community and our listeners in the Raleigh-Durham area. In 24-hours, 680 WPTF airs 12 hours of news programming and 12 hours of informative talk programming each weekday.

1. North Carolina's Early Morning News and Morning News (Monday - Friday, 5:00 am - 10:00 am)

A locally-produced morning "all news program," hosted by Patrick Johnson, Brian Freeman, and Donna Martinez focusing on world, national and local news, plus weather, and traffic and interview segments throughout the show. The bulk of this weekday program is news, weather, traffic and other information to help listeners get their day started. The program includes updates from CBS Market Watch. There are regular guest appearances by people in the political, tech, business, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

2. North Carolina's Mid-day News (Monday - Friday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon)

A locally-produced "all news program," hosted by Patrick Johnson which focuses on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with guests in the entertainment, local news, political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

3. North Carolina's Mid-day News (Monday - Friday, 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm)

A locally-produced "all news program," hosted by Bruce Ferrell which focuses on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with guests in the political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

4. North Carolina's Afternoon News (Monday - Friday, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

A locally-produced "all news program," hosted by Brandon Dickson focusing on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with people in the political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

5. North Carolina's Evening News (Monday - Friday, (4:00 pm-7:00 pm)

A locally-produced "all news program," hosted by Scott Briggaman focuses on world, national and local news, plus weather, and interview segments throughout the show. The program includes interviews with guests in the political, legal, financial, and health care fields. Program participants engage in conversation about the headlines of the day. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

6. Clark Howard (Monday – Friday, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

The nationally produced Clark Howard show is helping millions of Americans through all types of financial trouble. He simplifies complex issues, allays fears, and offers sound advice to help families thrive during financial crisis. In addition to the program, listeners are kept up to date with news updates from CBS and WPTF News.

7. Open Line with Tom Kearney (Monday - Friday 9 pm -10 pm)

Hosted by long time WPTF staff member Tom Kearney, this show spans a wide gamut of issues including current events, sports and pop culture. Guest experts normally participate in the show and calls are

taken from local listeners as well as many others within range of WPTF's 50,000 watt night time signal via a toll-free number.

8. Dr. Joy Browne

(Monday - Friday 10:00 pm – 1:00 am)

Nationally syndicated talk radio show focused on helping people deal with different life difficulties.

9. Red-Eye Radio

(Monday – Sunday, 1:00 am – 5:00 am, Saturday, to 7:00 am)

Nationally syndicated, Red-Eye Radio is the country's national clearinghouse of information, thoughts and opinions on numerous issues. Katie Award Winning hosts Eric Harley and Gary McNamara engage their millions of listeners and callers with the major issues of the day including current events, legislation, popular culture, family issues, detailed national weather forecasts, safety tips and interviews with trucking industry leaders.

10. WPTF News: WPTF broadcasts world, national and local news at the top and bottom of every hour 24 hours a day. Newscasts also include sports and weather. Breaking news is broadcast immediately by WPTF's staff of six full-time news anchors/reporters plus the resources of CBS News. All major news events, such as a State of the Union speech are carried live. Some examples of local news stories during the 1st quarter are listed at the end of this report, along with date, time and issue.

11. WPTF Traffic Reports:

WPTF broadcasts local traffic weekdays from 5 am to 9 am and 3 pm to 7 pm. Reports are aired at :08, :18, :28, :38, :48 and :58. Each report runs from a full minute in length and are produced locally within WPTF's studios by the Triangle Traffic Network

In addition to the weekday programs, WPTF airs numerous weekend programs in the public interest:

12. North Carolina's Morning News – Saturday (Saturdays, 7:00 am – 8:00 am)

A locally-produced morning "news wheel," hosted by Dave Richmond focused on world, national and local news, plus weather and interview segments throughout the show. The bulk of this program is news, weather, traffic and other information to help listeners get their Saturday started. All interviews are between one-minute thirty seconds and three-minutes in length.

13. Weekend Gardner:

(Saturdays, 8:00 am – 11:00 am)

A locally-produced talk show that has experts fielding listener's calls about plants and gardening.

14. Dining Out with Greg Cox:

(Saturdays, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm)

A locally produced restaurant review program featuring News and Observer food critic Greg Cox and hosted by Dave Richmond. Greg gives listeners the inside scoop on eateries all over the Triangle covering all food categories, new restaurants and secret places to eat.

15. The Trader's Edge (Saturdays, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm and effective February 16, 2014, Sunday's, 9:00 am – 10:00 am)

Sponsored by "Online Trading Academy, this regionally syndicated, "paid," program, hosted by Scott Tansill, advises investors on methods and strategies to make money in the stock market.

16. The Financial Planning Hour with Rick Parkes (Saturdays, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm and effective March 8, 2014)

This locally produced call in program highlights financial expert Rick Parkes, who helps people keep their money and create a plan that will ensure that they do not outlive their money but live a comfortable life in retirement.

17. Joe Wade Formicola:

(Saturdays, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – effective March 8, 2014)

Locally produced call in show that centers on topical news and debate on anything from entertainment to the latest in politics. Joe Wade offers up whatever is on his or his listener's minds with little to no holding back.

18. The Money Pit Home Improvement Show (Saturdays, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm)

Nationally syndicated and hosted by Leslie Segrete and Tom Kraeutler, Money Pit gives listeners advice and information on making home improvements, and solving home repair and maintenance troubles.

19. Into Tomorrow with Dave Graveline (Saturdays, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

Nationally syndicated "Into Tomorrow" covers the latest in consumer electronics and technology. The program, hosted by Dave Graveline, is a dynamic blend of listener interaction and insightful and informative guests speaking on a variety of topics related to technology.

20. Sunday Morning Music (Sundays, 6:00 am – 7:00 am)

There's nothing better to start a Sunday Morning than light, reflective music. Paul Michels hosts.

21. Carolina Newsmakers (Sundays, 7:00 am – 8:00 am)

A locally produced, public affairs, programming highlighting local and state newsmakers discussing various topics. Hosted by Don Curtis.

22. Editors Roundtable (Sundays, 8:00 am – 8:30 am)

Hosted by Don Curtis, this locally produced program reviews various stories in the news. Don is joined by Jason Kong, David Stuckey and Brian Freeman who comment on the stories presented.

23. Living in the Light with Anne Graham Lotz (Sundays, 8:30 am – 9:00 am)

Anne Graham Lotz is an American Christian evangelist and the second daughter of evangelist Billy Graham and his wife Ruth Graham. In this weekly 30-minute program, Anne allows listeners to get to know God personally, intimately...as His friend - living in the light of His Word.

24. People in Politics (Sundays, 9:00 am – 10:00 am until February 16, 2014 Sunday's, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm after February 16, 2014)

A locally produced, public affairs, program that centers on what's happening in state government political circles. Hosted by Donna Martinez.

25. Religious Programming: (Sundays, 10:00 am - 12 noon)

WPTF broadcasts live the morning worship services of Edenton Street United Methodist Church and White Memorial Presbyterian Church on alternate Sundays.

26. Triangle Trader (Sundays, 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.)

Host "Trader Dave" Alexander takes calls from listeners, who are allowed to announce items they have for sale.

27. The Wine Crush (Sundays, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm)

The Wine Crush is a one hour dynamic, fast-paced lifestyle program that not only explains and demystifies the world of wine, but demonstrates how wine can be integrated with everyday life. Host Laura Lawson is a veteran in the wine business who manages to couple her vast wine knowledge with her unique sense of humor and tactful sarcasm.

28. For Your Ears Only (Sundays, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm)

For Your Ears Only (formerly Newsweek on Air) is a weekly radio program highlighting various items in the news. Anchored by David M. Alpern and Isaac Davy Aronson.

29. Money Matters (Sundays, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm)

The hosts are Doug and Linda Lewis, certified financial planners, who answer questions about the economy, and personal finance. They deal with issues of 401K and other employer retirement plans, IRAs, Roth IRA's, etc. They discuss the markets, national, regional, and local financial news and the impact a story may have on the economy.

30. 60 Minutes

(Sundays, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm)

This nationally known television news show highlights news maker interviews and investigative reports along with celebrity guest interviews and commentary. 60 Minutes is presented live to listeners even when the television version is delayed.

31. That Cancer Show

(Sundays, 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

Cornucopia Cancer Support Center presents a forum for conversations about the cancer journey. The host-guest call-in show, called That Cancer Show™, provides the Triangle community an opportunity to ask questions and talk about their personal experiences with cancer.

32. Hall of Fame

(Sundays, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am)

Curtis Media's founder, Don Curtis, takes listeners down a trip on Memory Lane with the hit songs of the past and the inside story about artists and the tunes.

33. NASCAR and NASCAR Live**(Schedule varies)**

Sprint Cup NASCAR races from the Motor Racing Network and the Performance Racing Network are heard on selected Saturdays and Sundays and each Tuesday evening at 7 pm NASCAR fans hear the latest news on upcoming races and events in the world of racing on NASCAR live from the Motor Racing Network.

**ISSUES OF CONCERN TO RALEIGH-DURHAM
ADDRESSED IN RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING**

CODE ISSUE

AC	Arts & Culture	HSM	Health, Safety and Medical Affairs
CD	Crime/Drugs	HO	Housing
CR	Civil Rights & Activism	IA	International Affairs
EC	Economy/Employment	NS	National Security
ED	Education	PA	Political Affairs
EH	Environment/Health	RE	Religion
GA	Government Affairs	SO	Social Media
GR	Growth/Transportation/Roads	SP	Sports/Games/Races

WPTF news segments and interviews air as one-minute-thirty second to three-minute packages that air at various times during the day, within WPTF news hours.

AC-Arts & Culture

JANUARY 1 – WITH A LOOK AT HOW WE CAN BRING IN THE NEW YEAR, HERE'S KERRI DAVIS. AC

JANUARY 3 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-MUSIC TRIVIA AND TRIBUTE TO PHIL EVERLY- AC

JANUARY 3 – THE HOLIDAY MOVIE OFFERINGS ARE DONE, BUT WHAT DOES THE NEW YEAR BRING TO AREA THEATRES? KEVIN CARR FROM FAT GUYS AT THE MOVIES DOT COM GIVES BRIAN FREEMAN A LOOK AT THIS WEEKEND'S MOVIES. AC

JANUARY 7 – HIS VOICE, CADENCE AND OVERALL PRESENCE ARE ONE OF A KIND AND -- THIS SUNDAY (JANUARY 12TH) -- TV AND FILM LEGEND WILLIAM SHATNER WILL BE IN RALEIGH HEADLINING HIS ONE MAN SHOW SHATNER'S WORLD: WE JUST LIVE IN IT. JOSH ZACH TALKED TO SHATNER ABOUT THE SHOW, WHICH HE SAYS IS ONE OF THE MOST GRATIFYING EXPERIENCES HE'S EVER HAD AS AN ACTOR. AC

JANUARY 8 – FOODIES AND HOME CHEFS OF THE TRIANGLE, TAKE NOTE... WPTF'S RESIDENT CHEF WENDY PERRY TELLS OUR PATRICK JOHNSON ABOUT SOME OF THE THINGS YOU MAY BE PREPARING IN YOUR KITCHEN OR ENJOYING ON YOUR TABLES IN THE YEAR AHEAD. AC

JANUARY 8 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-ELVIS PRESLEY-BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE-LISTENER PARTICIPATION - AC

JANUARY 10 – TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TRIVIA NIGHT-25 YEARS OF "THE SIMPSONS" - AC

JANUARY 14 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW- DOUG AND AUSTIN MATTOX OF MATTOX COINS AND STAMPS ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS - AC

JANUARY 15 – IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN...WE ARE GEARING UP FOR THE 7TH ANNUAL TRIANGLE DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE COMING UP ON FEBRUARY FIRST. WHAT DOES THE EVENT MEAN TO BOTH DADS AND DAUGHTERS? BRIAN FREEMAN FOUND OUT IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH JOEL WIGGINS, FOUNDER OF "MEN STANDING IN THE GAP." AC

JANUARY 16 – ARTS PLAYS AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE ATTRACTION OF TALENT AND THE GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER WANTS TO RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO HAVE DONE A GREAT JOB OF MAKING THE CITY A SPECIAL PLACE FROM AN ARTS PERSPECTIVE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH HARVEY SCHMITT, CHAMBER PRESIDENT, ON WHO WILL BE AWARDED AT THE UNITED ARTS COUNCIL BUSINESS SUPPORT OF THE ARTS AWARDS CEREMONY NEXT TUESDAY. AC

JANUARY 16 – TONIGHT ON LIFETIME, EMMY AWARD WINNER TIM GUNN -- OR PROJECT RUNWAY FAME -- RETURNS TO THE TUBE WITH A NEW REALITY FASHION COMPETITION -- UNDER THE GUNN... TIM GUNN TALKED WITH WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON ABOUT THE SHOW. AC

JANUARY 17 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-FRIDAY NIGHT WITH STEPHEN KEARNEY-25 YEARS OF THE SIMPSONS – AC

JANUARY 20 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - LYNN SETZER ON HER NEW BOOK "TAR HEEL HISTORY ON FOOT" - AC

JANUARY 21 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - GEORGANN EUBANKS, AUTHOR OF "LITERARY TRAILS OF NORTH CAROLINA" ON HER NEW LITERATURE BLOG AND THE "RIVER WRITERS" PROJECT - AC

JANUARY 21 – THEY'RE EVERYWHERE -- ON AIRPLANES, IN COFFEE SHOPS, EVEN IN SCHOOLS. THE USE OF "E-READERS" HAS HELPED MAKE READING BOOKS A HABIT ONCE AGAIN IN THIS COUNTRY. BUT CAN THE TREND LAST OR IS THIS ANOTHER DIGITAL FAD? IT'S THE TOPIC OF BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ WITH OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. AC

JANUARY 23 – "ONCE" THE WINNER OF 8 TONY AWARDS INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL AND THIS UNIQUE BROADWAY EXPERIENCE, WHERE THE ACTOR/MUSICIANS PLAY THEIR OWN INSTRUMENTS, IS BEING FEATURED AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER RIGHT NOW. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH EVAN HARRINGTON, WHO PLAYS BILLY IN THE SHOW. AC

JANUARY 24 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW HANDICAPPING THE OSCARS WITH GUEST STEPHEN KEARNEY - AC

JANUARY 27 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - GUEST WOODY SEYMOUR DISCUSSES SHORT - WAVE LISTENING AND INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING - AC

JANUARY 27 – WHO WON, WHO LOST AT LAST NIGHT'S GRAMMY'S? CELEBRITY REPORT MICHAEL YO COVERS IT ALL WITH BRIAN FREEMAN. AC

JANUARY 31 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC TRIVIA – AC

FEBRUARY 3 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - "BUDDY HOLLY AND THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED" - LISTENER PARTICIPATION - AC

FEBRUARY 27 – DURHAM'S MUSEUM OF LIFE AND SCIENCE IS EMBARKING ON ITS LARGEST CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO ADD TWO ADDITIONAL SECTIONS TO THE 84 ACRE CAMPUS.. BRUCE FERRELL FOUND OUR MORE FROM JULIE RIGBY, VICE PRESIDENT OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS FROM THE MUSEUM. AC

FEBRUARY 27 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. GERALD PROKOPOWICZ-,ECU HISTORY PROFESSOR-DISCUSSES ABRAHAM LINCOLN ON HIS 55TH BIRTHDAY- AC

FEBRUARY 28 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TRIVIA NIGHT-THE MOVIES-STEVE KEARNEY HANDICAPS THE OSCARS- AC

FEBRUARY 28 – WHAT'S UP FOR YOUR WEEKEND.. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH FAYE MITCHELL FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES ABOUT SOME EVENTS INCLUDING ONES ALONG OUR COAST. AC

MARCH 4 – THE 2014-15 SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. IN OUR CONTINUING BROADWAY SERIES, BRIAN FREEMAN AND RADIO 96-1'S ALLI MORGAN SPOKE TO CHARLES RANDOLPH-WRIGHT THE DIRECTOR OF MOTOWN THE MUSICAL. AC

MARCH 5 – THE 2014-15 SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. IN OUR CONTINUING BROADWAY SERIES, BRIAN FREEMAN AND RADIO 96-1'S ALLI MORGAN SPOKE TO TERENCE MANN AND CHARLOTTE D'AMBOISE (DEM - BWAHS) WITH THE MUSICAL PIPPIN ON BROADWAY. AC

MARCH 6 – THE 2014-15 SUNTRUST BROADWAY SERIES AT THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED. IN OUR CONTINUING BROADWAY SERIES, BRIAN FREEMAN AND RADIO 96-1'S ALLI MORGAN SPOKE TO NORTH CAROLINA NATIVE AND TONY AWARD WINNER WILLIAM IVEY LONG, WHO DESIGNED THE COSTUMES FOR THE MUSICAL CINDERELLA ON BROADWAY. AC

MARCH 6 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-NANCY OLSON ON NEWLY PUBLISHED BOOKS- AC

MARCH 7 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TRIVIA NIGHT-OPEN PHONE -LISTENER PARTICIPATION AC

MARCH 10 – A BIG NAME IS COMING TO THE DURHAM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER THIS SUMMER. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKS WITH BOB KLAUS, DPAC'S GENERAL MANAGER, ON THE BIG ANNOUNCEMENT. AC

MARCH 17 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW- A MEDITATION ON THE IRISH AND ST. PATRICK'S DAY-OPEN PHONE- AC

MARCH 19 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-KEN STEWART-LOCAL CIVIL WAR REENACTOR-ON THE DAY-TO-DAY LIFE OF THE CIVIL WAR SOLDIER- AC

MARCH 21 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TV TRIVIA -WOMEN ON TV- AC

MARCH 25 – THE SONG "HAPPY" BY PHARRELL (FUR-RELL) WILLIAMS HAS INSPIRED A NUMBER OF VIRAL VIDEOS, INCLUDING ONE DONE HERE AT CMG STUDIOS. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN TALKED ABOUT WHY THE SONG IS SO CATCHY WITH ANTHONY KELLY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THE PRACTICE OF MUSIC AT THE DUKE UNIVERSITY MUSIC DEPARTMENT. AC

CD - Crime/Drugs

JANUARY 2 – WE'RE LEARNING MORE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED THE NIGHT TWO BROTHERS WERE KILLED WHEN THEY WERE HIT HEAD ON BY A DRIVER NOW CHARGED WITH DWI. THIS HAPPENED EARLY FRIDAY MORNING ON HIGHWAY 98 IN DURHAM COUNTY. WTVD TV'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ HAS THE STORY.CD

JANUARY 2 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. MIKE WALDEN OF NCSU LOOKS BACK A THE 2013 ECONOMY - EC

JANUARY 3 – POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING A MYSTERIOUS DEATH IN RALEIGH. WTVD'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ SAYS A MAN'S BODY WAS FOUND IN A WOODED AREA OF BELMONT DRIVE IN RALEIGH. CD

JANUARY 3 – WOULDN'T IT BE AMAZING IF YOU WERE SITTING AT YOUR KITCHEN TABLE, STARING AT YOUR CREDIT CARD, AND AT THAT EXACT MOMENT YOUR CARD WAS BEING USED BY SOMEONE ELSE? IT'S NOT AMAZING, IT'S TERRIFYING, AND WITH THE CREDIT BREACH AT TARGET FRESH IN EVERYONE'S MINDS,

SCOTT BRIGGAMAN TALKED TO TOWN OF CLAYTON SPOKESPERSON STACY BEARD ABOUT AN ACTIVE CASE OF FRAUD, WHERE THE CREDIT CROOKS BOUNCED FROM TOWN TO TOWN, STORE TO STORE. CD

JANUARY 6 – RALEIGH'S FIRST MURDER VICTIM OF THE YEAR WAS A 21 YEAR OLD WHO WAS GUNNED DOWN ON GLENWOOD AVENUE OVER THE WEEKEND. WTVD TV'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ REPORTS. CD

JANUARY 7 – WE ARE CLOSING TO LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE DEATH OF JESUS HUERTA.THE DURHAM MAYOR SAYS HE WILL RELEASE THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT ON THE TEENAGER'S DEATH LATER THIS WEEK. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE HAS THE DETAILS. CD

JANUARY 10 – AUTHORITIES ARE CREDITING TECHNOLOGY WITH HELPING LAW ENFORCEMENT TAKE DOWN A RECORD NUMBER OF METH LAB BUSTS IN NORTH CAROLINA IN 2013. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH VAN SHAW, ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR AT THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, WHO SAYS AGENTS RESPONDED TO 561 METH LABS IN 2013, A 22 PERCENT INCREASE FROM 2012. CD

JANUARY 13 – AFTER A 4-DECADE SLUMP, GUN OWNERSHIP IS RISING. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH PAUL BEDARD OF THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER TO FIND OUT WHY THE SUDDEN SURGE IN GUN OWNERS. CD

JANUARY 13 – STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER SAYS TECHNOLOGY AIDED LAW ENFORCEMENT LAST YEAR IN UNCOVERING A RECORD NUMBER 561 ILLEGAL METH LABS IN NORTH CAROLINA. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH VAN SHAW -- ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR AT THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION -- TO DISCUSS THE CHALLENGES WITH METHAMPHETAMINE, WHICH INCLUDE NOT JUST LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS, BUT ECONOMICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AS WELL. CD

JANUARY 13 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. MIKE WALDEN OF N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY COMMENTS ON THE ECONOMY - EC

JANUARY 14 - EVERY WORK ENVIRONMENT -- WHETHER IT'S AN OFFICE OR A MANUFACTURING LINE -- HAS ITS CHALLENGES. YOU HAVE TO KEEP UP WITH TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRY TRENDS, AND THEN THERE'S THE PRESSURE TO PERFORM AND DEAL WITH THE BOSS. BUT WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOUR PROBLEM ISN'T WITH THE JOB -- BUT WITH A COWORKER WHO'S A BULLY? IT'S THE TOPIC OF BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ WITH OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. CD

JANUARY 14 - THE DURHAM DISTRICT ATTORNEY IS EXPECTED TO ANNOUNCE IF CHARGES WILL BE FILED IN THE JESUS HUERTA CASE. HE'S THE 17 YEAR OLD WHO KILLED HIMSELF WHILE IN POLICE CUSTODY. WTVD TV'S TAMARA GIBBS REPORTS. CD

JANUARY 17 – A RALEIGH MAN CONVICTED OF KILLING THE MOTHER OF TWO OF HIS CHILDREN REGRETS NOT TAKING THE STAND IN HIS OWN DEFENSE. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE HAS THE DETAILS. CD

JANUARY 20 – A THIRD MARCH WAS HELD SUNDAY NIGHT IN HONOR OF A DURHAM TEENAGER WHO DIED WHILE IN POLICE CUSTODY. WTVD TV'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ HAS THE DETAILS. CD

JANUARY 21 – THE MARIJUANA MOVEMENT IS GROWING IN THE COUNTRY THIS YEAR WITH COLORADO AS IT OPENED ITS FIRST LEGAL POST STORES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR AND WASHINGTON STATE IS READY TO ISSUE LICENSES FOR SELLING THE DRUG. AT LEAST FIVE STATES ARE WORKING TO PUT MARIJUANA MEASURES ON THE BALLOT. LIZ PEEK, A COLUMNIST FOR FOX NEWS.COM, TOLD BILL LUMAYE THE STATES ARE DOING IT FOR THE MONEY, BUT IT'S A DANGEROUS DRUG AND SHOULD NOT BE LEGALIZED. CD

JANUARY 22 – THE VORTEX RIDE, WHERE FIVE PEOPLE WERE INJURED AT THE STATE FAIR LAST FALL, IS NOW BEING REMOVED FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS. TWO PEOPLE FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR MANIPULATING THE RIDE AFTER SAFETY INSPECTIONS. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH STATE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BRIAN LONG ABOUT WHAT WAS LEARNED ABOUT THE INCIDENT. CD

JANUARY 22 – THE VORTEX RIDE, WHERE FIVE PEOPLE WERE INJURED AT THE STATE FAIR LAST FALL, IS NOW BEING REMOVED FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS. TWO PEOPLE FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR MANIPULATING THE RIDE AFTER SAFETY INSPECTIONS. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH STATE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BRIAN LONG ABOUT WHAT WAS LEARNED ABOUT THE INCIDENT. CD

JANUARY 24 – NEW DOCUMENTS AND PICTURES WERE RELEASED THURSDAY REVEALING INFORMATION ABOUT THE VORTEX ACCIDENT DURING LAST YEAR'S STATE FAIR. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE REPORTS. CD

FEBRUARY 3 – CARY POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING THE CITY'S FIRST MURDER IN NEARLY A YEAR. KEVIN BODEN SPENT THE NIGHT IN A WAKE COUNTY JAIL ACCUSED OF KILLING HIS YOUNGER BROTHER. THE SHOOTING HAPPENED SUNDAY MORNING. WTVD TV'S ALENA ATHENS HAS THE STORY. CD

FEBRUARY 4 – AN 11-YEAR-OLD BOY IS CLINGING TO LIFE AFTER AN APPARENT SUICIDE ATTEMPT. PARENTS SAY HE WAS BULLIED RELENTLESSLY AT SCHOOL BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR A KID'S CARTOON. WTVD TV'S JOEL BROWN REPORTS. CD

FEBRUARY 5 – A STANDOFF AT A WINSTON-SALEM HOTEL ENDED TUESDAY -- NEARLY 29 HOURS AFTER IT BEGAN -- WITH THE SUSPECT AND HIS HOSTAGE BOTH UNDER ARREST. DURING A BRIEFING, LATE TUESDAY AFTERNOON, WINSTON-SALEM POLICE CHIEF BARRY ROUNTREE GAVE A TIMELINE OF EVENTS THAT LED TO THE DAY-LONG STANDOFF THAT STARTED WITH A CAR CHASE FROM KING TO SURRY COUNTY LATE SUNDAY NIGHT. CD

FEBRUARY 6 – IF SOMEONE CALLS CLAIMING TO BE THE POWER COMPANY AND THREATENING TO CUT OFF YOUR SERVICE, BEWARE .. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH JANE PRITCHARD WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES ABOUT HOW A SCAM IS IMPACTING CUSTOMERS. CD

FEBRUARY 7 – CRIME IS STEPPING UP IN DURHAM IN NEIGHBORHOODS THAT ARE USUALLY CRIME FREE. RESIDENTS ARE BEING NOTIFIED OVER A STRING OF RECENT BREAK INS. WTVD TV'S ALENA ATHENS HAS THE DETAILS. CD

FEBRUARY 17 – CLOSING ARGUMENTS ARE SET TO BEGIN THIS MORNING IN THE AMANDA HAYES' MURDER TRIAL. PROSECUTORS SAYING AMANDA HELPED HER HUSBAND GRANT KILL LAURA ACKERSON, DISMEMBER AND DISPOSE OF HER BODY. WTVD TV'S ALENA ATHENS HAS THE DETAILS OF THE LATEST TESTIMONIES. CD

FEBRUARY 17 – A FORMER HARNETT COUNTY WOMAN CLAIMED SHE KILLED A MAN SHE MET ON CRAIGSLIST IS NOW CONFESSING SHE'S MURDERED AT LEAST 22 PEOPLE. WTVD TV'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ HAS THE STORY. CD

FEBRUARY 18 – THE JURY DELIBERATED FOR AN HOUR AND FIFTEEN MINUTES BEFORE GOING HOME FOR THE NIGHT. AND DURING THAT SHORT PERIOD OF TIME THEY ASKED THE JUDGE A VERY CRITICAL QUESTION WHICH COULD BE A CLUE AS TO WHICH WAY THEY ARE LEANING. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE REPORTS. CD

FEBRUARY 24 – A SANFORD POLICE OFFICER IS RECOVERING FROM GETTING SHOT ON THE JOB ON SATURDAY. POLICE SAY HE WAS SHOT DURING A SHOOTOUT IN A WOODED AREA BEHIND A COMMUNITY CENTER. WTVD TV'S ALENA ATHENS REPORTS. CD

FEBRUARY 26 – WAKE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS LOST OUT ON NEARLY 1-MILLION DOLLARS, ACCORDING TO INDICTMENTS FROM A GRAND JURY THAT ALLEGE TWO COUNTY OFFICIALS TOOK KICKBACKS FROM BAIL BONDSMEN TO ZERO OUT THE DEBT OWED BY THOSE BONDSMEN. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS DETAILS ON THE INVESTIGATION. CD

FEBRUARY 27 – DURHAM POLICE RESPONDED TO A CALL OF CARDIAC ARREST ON GLASSON STREET AROUND 5 AM WEDNESDAY. WHAT THEY FOUND, WAS A MURDER SCENE. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS MORE. CD

FEBRUARY 28 – A NEW STUDY SHOWS MENTALLY ILL INDIVIDUALS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE VICTIMS, NOT PERPETRATORS OF VIOLENCE. THE WORK WAS DONE BY RESEARCHERS AT NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY; RTI INTERNATIONAL; THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS; SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY AND DUKE UNIVERSITY. DR. SARAH DESMARAIS (DEH-MER-AY) IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY AT NC STATE AND LEAD AUTHOR OF A PAPER DESCRIBING THE WORK. CD

FEBRUARY 28 – A DURHAM TEENAGER WAS IN COURT FOR THE FIRST TIME THURSDAY AFTER HE HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH MURDER AND ATTEMPTED MURDER. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE SAYS THE TEENAGER HAD AN ARGUMENT WITH HIS FAMILY MEMBERS BEFORE THE STABBING. CD

MARCH 4 – TWO BROTHERS HAVE A COURT DATE SET FOR NEXT MONDAY, MARCH 10TH, IN CONNECTION WITH A STRING OF HOME INVASIONS IN RALEIGH FROM DECEMBER 2012 THROUGH JANUARY 2013. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE SAYS ONE OF THOSE CHARGED AGREED TO PLEAD GUILTY ON MONDAY. CD

MARCH 4 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DAVID KIRKMAN-CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION,N.C. ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OFFICE-ON SCAMS TO BE AWARE OF- CD

MARCH 10 – DOZENS OF POLICE TRYING TO ARREST A SUSPECT LED AUTHORITIES TO BLOCK OFF BLOUNT STREET NEAR POPLAR IN RALEIGH FOR FIVE HOURS. WTVD TV'S ANGELICA ALVEREZ HAS THE STORY. CD

MARCH 12 – A PLEA DEAL IS REPORTEDLY "ON THE TABLE" IN THE RETRIAL OF A DURHAM MAN ACCUSED OF KILLING HIS WIFE MORE THAN EIGHT YEARS AGO. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS DETAILS. CD

MARCH 13 – RAVEN ABAROA, THE MAN ACCUSED OF KILLING HIS WIFE JANET IN DURHAM MORE THAN 8 YEARS AGO, TOLD A JUDGE WEDNESDAY HE HAS AGREED TO PLEAD GUILTY TO A VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER CHARGE. CD

MARCH 13 – A COURT MARTIAL AT FT BRAGG IS CURRENTLY ON HOLD AS ATTORNEYS FOR AN ARMY GENERAL CHARGED WITH SEXUAL ASSAULT WILL TRY RENEGOTIATE A PLEA DEAL WITH A NEW SET OF MILITARY OFFICIALS. CBS' JIM KRASULA HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THE CASE OF BRIGADIER GEN. JEFFREY SINCLAIR HE SPOKE WITH WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN ABOUT HOW LONG THE TRIAL COULD BE HELD UP. CD

MARCH 17 – AS MANY STUDENTS ARE TRAVELING FOR SPRING BREAK, TRAGEDY HAS STRUCK ONE TRIANGLE UNIVERSITY. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE SAYS SEVEN STUDENTS WERE TRAVELING IN A VAN BACK TO NORTH CAROLINA WHEN IT WAS STRUCK BY ANOTHER VEHICLE. CD

MARCH 18 – A NEW DEVELOPMENT MONDAY FROM A TRIAL ALLEGING TWO BROTHERS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR A CHAIN OF HOME INVASIONS IN WAKE COUNTY. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS MORE. CD

MARCH 20 – ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER SAID EARLIER THIS MONTH THAT THE INCREASE IN HEROIN-RELATED DEATHS IS AN "URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS," AND FIRST RESPONDERS SHOULD CARRY DRUGS THAT WILL REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF A HEROIN OVERDOSE. IN A NEW WPTF IN-DEPTH LOOK AT ONE OF THE MOST LETHAL NARCOTICS IN HISTORY, JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. SCOTT SWARTZWELDER (PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION), CO-DIRECTOR OF DUKE UNIVERSITY'S DUKELEARN, AND CO-AUTHOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER, BUZZED: THE STRAIGHT FACTS ABOUT THE MOST USED AND ABUSED DRUGS. CD

MARCH 25 – THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE GROWING PREVALENCE OF OPIATE ABUSE. ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER SAID EARLIER THIS MONTH CALLED THE RISING NUMBER OF HEROIN-RELATED DEATHS AN "URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS." IN THE LATEST INSTALLMENT WPTF'S IN-DEPTH LOOK AT ONE OF THE MOST LETHAL NARCOTICS IN HISTORY, JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD: DUKE UNIVERSITY'S DR. SCOTT SWARTZWELDER (PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION), CO-AUTHOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER, BUZZED: THE STRAIGHT FACTS ABOUT THE MOST USED AND ABUSED DRUGS. CD

MARCH 25 – CLOSING ARGUMENTS WERE HEARD MONDAY IN A SMITHFIELD COURTROOM, THAT AFTER FOUR WEEKS OF EMOTIONAL AND DISTURBING TESTIMONY IN THE CASE OF JONATHAN RICHARDSON. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAD MORE AS THIS STORY WINDS TO AN END. CD

MARCH 26 – CLOSING ARGUMENTS WERE HEARD MONDAY IN THE JONATHAN RICHARDSON MURDER TRIAL. TUESDAY, A JURY RETURNED A VERDICT IN THE CASE. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS MORE. CD

MARCH 27 – JONATHAN RICHARDSON HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY ON ALL CHARGES IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEATH OF TEGHAN SKIBA, THE 4-YEAR-OLD JOHNSTON COUNTY GIRL WHO WAS THE DAUGHTER OF RICHARDSON'S GIRLFRIEND. ON TUESDAY, IT TOOK A JURY LESS THAN AN HOUR TO RETURN A GUILTY VERDICT AND NOW THE SENTENCING PHASE HAS BEGUN. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS MORE FROM THE COURTROOM. CD

MARCH 27 – FORMER CHARLOTTE MAYOR PATRICK CANNON WAS ARRESTED WEDNESDAY BY FBI AGENTS FOR ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF FEDERAL CORRUPTION LAWS. THE FEDERAL CRIMINAL COMPLAINT FILED IN US DISTRICT COURT ALLEGES THAT CANNON ACCEPTED BRIBES FROM UNDERCOVER FBI AGENTS ON FIVE SEPARATE OCCASIONS. CANON MADE AN INITIAL COURT APPEARANCE WEDNESDAY AND WAS RELEASED IN

BOND PENDING INDICTMENT....CITY OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT CANNON HAS RESIGNED. MAYOR PRO TEM MICHAEL BARNES AND CITY MANAGER RON CARLEE MET WITH MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. CD

MARCH 31 – WITH THE PENALTY PHASE UNDERWAY IN JOHNSTON COUNTY FOR THE MAN CONVICTED OF KILLING TEGHAN SKIBA, THE COURTROOM HEARD FRIDAY HOW EMOTIONAL JONATHAN RICHARDSON WAS WHEN HE TOLD HIS MOTHER ABOUT THE 4-YEAR-OLD'S DEATH. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS MORE FROM THE JOHNSTON COUNTY COURTROOM. CD

CR- Civil Rights

FEBRUARY 7 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - AFRICAN AMERICANS ON TV - WITH TRIVIA - FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH – CR

EC - Economy/Employment

JANUARY 8 – REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN CONGRESS SAY THEY WILL SEEK CHANGES TO A BILL THAT WOULD RENEW BENEFITS FOR THE LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED. THE WHITE HOUSE-BACKED LEGISLATION UNEXPECTEDLY CLEARED AN INITIAL SENATE HURDLE YESTERDAY, OPENING THE WAY FOR NEGOTIATIONS. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN GETS MORE FROM CBS' BOB FUSS IN WASHINGTON. EC

JANUARY 9 – WITH OUR EYE ON THE RALEIGH CHAMBER, BRIAN FREEMAN, WITH CHAMBER PRESIDENT HARVEY SCHMITT, TALK ABOUT TOMORROWS ECONOMIC FORECAST BREAKFAST AND WHY THIS EVENT IS SO IMPORTANT TO THE TRIANGLE. EC

JANUARY 10 – THE 2014 ECONOMIC BREAKFAST AT THE RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THAT TOOK PLACE TODAY LOOKED AT THE TRIANGLE AND WHAT BUSINESSES ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO IN THE FUTURE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH ECONOMIST DR. JOHN SILVIA ABOUT RALEIGH'S PROS AND CONS AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO ADVANCE THE CITY THIS YEAR. EC

JANUARY 15 – 2014 COULD BE THE RETURN OF THE TRAVELING SALESMAN. IN A RECENT SURVEY OF BUSINESS-FOCUSED TRAVEL AGENTS NEARLY 40% OF RESPONDENTS PREDICTED THAT BUSINESS CLIENTS WILL TRAVEL MORE IN 2014 THAN LAST YEAR. JOSH ZACH TALKED TO PAM SEAGLE -- AN AGENT AT TRAVEL LEADERS IN HIGH POINT, NC -- TO FIND OUT THE REASONS BEHIND THE OPTIMISTIC FORECAST? EC

JANUARY 16 – A BIG ANNOUNCEMENT FOR NC STATE THAT EVEN CAME WITH A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. ON WEDNESDAY, PRESIDENT OBAMA ANNOUNCED ON NC STATE'S CAMPUS THAT THE UNIVERSITY WOULD LEAD THE NEW NEXT GENERATION POWER ELECTRONICS INNOVATION INSTITUTE. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH TERRI LOMAX- VICE CHANCELLOR OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT NC STATE- TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS HONOR MEANS AND WHAT IT ENTAILS. EC

JANUARY 16 – SHOULD SHOPPERS WORRY WHEN HACKERS TARGET RETAILERS? DAVID POGUE, YAHOO'S CHIEF GADGET CORRESPONDENT EXPLAINS TO "CBS THIS MORNING" WHY "YOU SHOULDN'T LOSE SLEEP OVER IT." EC

JANUARY 17 – COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT IN THE TRIANGLE IN 2014 IS PROJECTED TO SURPASS IMPROVEMENTS ALREADY MADE IN 2013. THAT'S ACCORDING TO N-A-I CAROLANTIC REALTY'S ANNUAL MARKET REPORT, WHICH WAS PRESENTED THIS WEEK AT THE COMPANY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT PNC ARENA. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH N-A-I CAROLANTIC PRESIDENT JIMMY BARNES TO DISCUSS THEIR COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FORECAST. EC

JANUARY 20 – IT'S LOOKING LIKE 2014 WILL BE A GREAT YEAR FOR CONSUMERS! A NEW OMNIBUS SURVEY BY THE COUPON AND SAVINGS WEBSITE RETAIL ME NOT DOT COM FINDS THAT CONSUMERS FEEL THAT 2014 WILL BRING MORE CONFIDENCE THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO AFFORD ALL THE THINGS THEY WANT AND NEED. JOSH ZACH TALKED WITH TREY BODGE -- SENIOR EDITOR AT RETAIL ME NOT -- TO FIND OUT WHAT'S DRIVING THE COMMERCE CONFIDENCE . EC

JANUARY 21 – A RECENT SURVEY OF BUSINESS-FOCUSED TRAVEL AGENTS FINDS THAT NEARLY 40% OF RESPONDENTS ARE PREDICTING 2014 WILL SEE AN UPTICK IN BUSINESS TRAVEL COMPARED TO 2013. THE SURVEY -- CONDUCTED BY TRAVEL LEADERS GROUP -- ALSO ASKED TRAVEL AGENTS THE QUESTION, WHAT

ARE THE TOP THREE CONCERNS FOR YOUR BUSINESS TRAVELERS?" JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED THE RESPONSES WITH PAM SEAGLE -- A BOOKING AGENT AT TRAVEL LEADERS IN HIGH POINT. EC

JANUARY 23 – ACCORDING TO A BANKRATE 2013 CHECKING SURVEY, ATM FEES, OVERDRAFT FEES AND MONTHLY MAINTENANCE FEES HIT RECORD HIGHS IN 2013. AND TO HELP YOU KEEP YOUR HARD-EARNED DOUGH AND NOT SPEND IT ON THOSE EXPENSIVE FEES, THERE'S A NEW MONEY MANAGEMENT APP. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH PERSONAL FINANCE EXPERT FARNOOSH TAROBI (FAR-NOOSH TORE-OH-BEE) TO GET THE DETAILS. EC

JANUARY 24 – WHEN PRESIDENT OBAMA CAME TO RALEIGH HE ANNOUNCED AN EFFORT TO GET NEW JOBS TO OUR AREA. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL'S AMANDA HOYLE ABOUT WHAT JOBS SPECIFICALLY WILL BE COMING AND SOME BIG SHOPPING CENTERS ARE MOVING TO RALEIGH AS WELL. EC

JANUARY 27 – DATA COMPILED IN A NEW SURVEY BY PNC FINANCIAL SERVICES FINDS THAT THE AMERICAN DREAM IS ALIVE AND WELLJOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH KATHY KRAEBLEN (CRAY-BLIN) -- A PNC WEALTH PLANNER IN RALEIGH -- WHO SAYS THEIR 10TH ANNUAL WEALTH AND VALUES SURVEY FINDS A SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF MILLIONAIRES ARE SELF-MADE AND ACCUMULATED THEIR WEALTH RECENTLY. EC

JANUARY 27 – LAST WEEK THERE WAS A BIG DROP IN THE MARKETS AND THERE ARE SOME WONDERING IF IT'S THE END OF THE BEN BERNANKE ERA. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH CBS BUSINESS ANALYST JILL SCHLESSINGER ABOUT OUR ECONOMY AND WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS WEEK. EC

FEBRUARY 3 – A LOT OF REPORTS ARE COMING OUT ABOUT OUR ECONOMY, SO HOW IS THE STOCK MARKET? AND WHAT ABOUT JOBS? BRIAN FREEMAN FINDS OUT FROM CBS SENIOR BUSINESS NEWS ANALYST JILL SCHLESSINGER. EC

FEBRUARY 5 – DON'T EVERYONE CELEBRATE AT ONCE BUT YES, IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN: THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED THE 2014 TAX FILING SEASON JANUARY 31ST. SO GET OUT YOUR CALCULATOR, YOUR SCRAP PAPER AND YOUR #2 PENCIL ... JOSH ZACH TALKED WITH IRS SPOKESMAN MARK HANSEN WHO SAYS DOZENS OF TAX TIPS AND HELPFUL RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT IRS DOT GOV. EC

FEBRUARY 5 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - BOB CHANDLER OF MACVANTAGE,INC. ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON APPLE COMPUTERS AND PRODUCTS - EC

FEBRUARY 6 – TAX SEASON ISN'T USUALLY THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR FOR MOST PEOPLE, BUT THERE IS SOME GOOD NEWS. THE AARP FOUNDATION IS, ONCE AGAIN, PROVIDING FREE TAX ASSISTANCE AND PREPARATION FOR TAXPAYERS WITH LOW TO MODERATE INCOME. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH VIVIAN VASALLO- VICE PRESIDENT OF AARP FOUNDATION- TO FIND OUT MORE. EC

FEBRUARY 6 – WITH OUR EYE ON THE RALEIGH CHAMBER, BRIAN FREEMAN, WITH THE CHAMBERS PRESIDENT HARVEY SCHMITT, TALK ABOUT A BIG UPCOMING EVENT FOR WOMEN IN BUSINESS. EC

FEBRUARY 7 – HOSPITALS ARE WORKING TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR YOU TO WHEN OBAMACARE SETS IN AND THE RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK KEEPS ON GROWING. TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THOSE LOCAL BUSINESS STORIES, BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH AMANDA HOYLE FROM THE TRIANGLE BUSINESS JOURNAL. EC

FEBRUARY 10 – LAST FRIDAY THE JANUARY JOBS REPORT WAS RELEASED. DID OUR ECONOMY DO WELL AT THE START OF THE NEW YEAR? BILL LUMAYE FINDS OUT FROM DR. MIKE WALDEN, ECONOMICS PROFESSOR AT NC STATE UNIVERSITY. EC

FEBRUARY 10 – LAST FRIDAY THE JANUARY JOBS REPORT WAS RELEASED SO HOW DID WE DO? AND THE MARKETS ARE DOWN IS THIS DISCOURAGING TO INVESTORS? BRIAN FREEMAN FINDS OUT FROM JILL SCHLESSINGER, CBS SENIOR BUSINESS NEWS ANALYST. EC

FEBRUARY 10 – A RECENT DUKE UNIVERSITY SURVEY FOUND THAT 44% OF TOP COMPANIES ARE CONSIDERING REDUCING HEALTH BENEFITS TO CURRENT EMPLOYEES DUE TO OBAMACARE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH PAUL BEDARD OF THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER TO GET THE DETAILS. EC

FEBRUARY 18 – ACCORDING TO THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY REGULATORY AUTHORITY, NEARLY 40 PERCENT OF AMERICANS DON'T HAVE A RAINY DAY FUND OF AT LEAST \$2,000 IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.

ANOTHER 42 PERCENT SAY THEY FEEL THEY'RE CARRYING TOO MUCH DEBT. WITH TAX SEASON HERE, AND MANY OF US GETTING REFUNDS, JOSH ZACH TALKS WITH GERRI WALSH -- PRESIDENT OF FINRA'S INVESTOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION -- ABOUT HOW THAT MONEY COULD BEST BE USED . EC

FEBRUARY 24 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TIM TAYLOR AND STEVE ARNOLD-ANSWER COMPUTER QUESTIONS- EC

FEBRUARY 25 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DOUG AND AUSTIN MATTOX-DISCUSS COINS ,STAMPS,AND THE HISTORY OF PAPER CURRENCY- EC

FEBRUARY 26 -- DID YOUR COMPANY EXCEL IN 2013? THE GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2014 PINNACLE BUSINESS AWARDS. JUDGED BY A PANEL OF LOCAL BUSINESS LEADERS, THESE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS GIVE BUSINESSES THE RECOGNITION THEY DESERVE. . BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED TO SEVERAL PINNACLE BUSINESS AWARD WINNERS FROM LAST YEAR, INCLUDING JOEL GRAYBEAL WITH TRIANGLE ROCK CLUB. EC

FEBRUARY 27 -- THE GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS DEVELOPED A PARTNERSHIP WITH SCORE TO HELP NEW BUSINESSES WITH THEIR STARTUPS. HARVEY SCHMITT, PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER, TOLD BRIAN FREEMAN THAT WHEN IT COMES TO STARTING A BUSINESS SCORE IS A GREAT TOOL AND IT COSTS NOTHING. EC

MARCH 6 -- THE GREAT RALEIGH CHAMBER OF BUSINESS IS HAVING A ROAD TRIP THIS WEEKEND HEADING FOR AUSTIN, TEXAS FOR THE SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST INTERACTIVE FESTIVAL. BRIAN FREEMAN LEARNS FROM THE CHAMBER'S PRESIDENT HARVEY SCHMITT ABOUT THIS FESTIVAL AND WHY THEY'RE SENDING A BUS OF RALEIGH'S TOP COMMUNITY LEADERS TO AUSTIN. EC

MARCH 6 -- PRESIDENT OBAMA SAYS CONGRESS SHOULD FOLLOW THE LEAD OF NEW ENGLAND STATES THAT HAVE RAISED THE MINIMUM WAGE ABOVE THE FEDERAL RATE...THE PRESIDENT WANTS CONGRESS TO INCREASE THE WAGE FROM \$7.25 AN HOUR TO \$10.10. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH CBS NEWS BUSINESS ANALYST JILL SCHLESINGER ABOUT THIS AND OTHER ECONOMIC ISSUES. EC

MARCH 10 -- THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE, BUT THE BEST THINGS IN BUSINESS CAN COST BIG BUCKS. WITH THE EXPLOSION OF INTERNET AND MOBILE CONTENT, NEW DATA SHOWS THAT SOCIAL MEDIA IS A A BIG DEAL FOR COMPANIES, AND THIS IS WHERE THEY PLAN TO SPEND A LOT MORE MONEY. JOSH ZACH FINDS OUT JUST HOW MUCH FROM PROF. CHRISTINE MOORMAN AT THE DUKE FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, WHO OUTLINED SOME OF THE DATA FROM THEIR LATEST SURVEY OF CHIEF MARKETING OFFICERS. EC

MARCH 11 -- AS CONSUMERS MOVE MORE FREQUENTLY TO THE INTERNET AND MOBILE DEVICES TO CONSUME CONTENT, BUSINESSES SEE THESE PLATFORMS AS AVENUES TO BOLSTER THEIR BRAND IMAGES. DUKE PROF. CHRISTINE MOORMAN TELLS JOSH ZACH THAT THE LATEST SURVEY OF CHIEF MARKETING OFFICERS BY THE DUKE FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS FINDS THAT COMPANIES -- OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS -- PLAN TO ALLOCATE MORE THAN 18 PERCENT OF THEIR MARKETING BUDGET ON SOCIAL MEDIA. EC

MARCH 12 -- THE LATEST SURVEY OF CHIEF MARKETING OFFICERS BY THE DUKE FUQUA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS FINDS THAT THE INTERNET IS BECOMING A BONA FIDE RIVAL TO TRADITIONAL MEDIA OUTLETS, AND BUSINESSES -- OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS -- PLAN TO SPEND SPENDING MORE OF THEIR MARKETING BUDGETS ON SOCIAL MEDIA. JOSH ZACH DISCUSSES THE EMERGENCE OF ONLINE CONTENT AS A 'CONTENDER' WITH FUQUA SCHOOL PROF. CHRISTINE MOORMAN. EC

MARCH 17 -- THE CRISIS IN UKRAINE AND CHINA'S SLOWING ECONOMY ARE BOTH AFFECTING THE MARKETS. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH JILL SCHLESSINGER TO FIND OUT MORE. EC

MARCH 25 -- WE'RE LEARNING MORE NOW ABOUT HOW QUICKLY THE EXISTING TOBACCO INDUSTRY IS JUMPING INTO THE WORLD OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES, USING THEIR MARKETING, DISTRIBUTION AND RESEARCH MUSCLE. EARLIER THIS YEAR, BOB MIDLES (MIDDLES) WITH SFNTODAY.COM TALKED WITH LONGTIME N.C. STATE TOBACCO ECONOMIST BLAKE BROWN ABOUT THIS TOPIC. EC

MARCH 25 -- IT'S TAX TIME, AND MANY OF US ARE PREOCCUPIED WITH FIGURING OUT HOW MUCH MONEY WE OWE TO THE IRS AND TO THE STATE. BUT YOU MAY BE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT BOTH THE FEDS

AND THE STATE MAY WANT TO GIVE US MONEY -- MONEY COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO OUR CURRENT TAX RETURNS. BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ HAVE OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. EC

MARCH 27 – THE ISSUE THAT HAS SMALL BUSINESSES BUZZING IS THE RALEIGH'S SIGN ORDINANCE THAT WOULD LIMIT THE SIZE OF SIGNAGE ON WINDOWS. SOME OWNERS SAY THE REGULATIONS COULD HURT THEIR BUSINESSES. BILL LUMAYE TALKED WITH BOB KING, OWNER OF SEABOARD STATION ACE HARDWARE, WHO IS AGAINST THE PROPOSAL. EC

MARCH 27 – ACCORDING TO A NEW STUDY, THE SIX INSTITUTIONS OF HIGH EDUCATION IN WAKE COUNTY ACCOUNT FOR 43 PERCENT OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND 24 PERCENT OF ALL INCOME IN WAKE COUNTY. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH HARVEY SCHMITT RALEIGH CHAMBER PRESIDENT ON WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON THE AREA. EC

MARCH 31 – NORTH CAROLINA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS CONTINUING TO IMPROVE. THE STATE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT SAYS HE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN FEBRUARY DROPPED TO 6.4 PERCENT COMPARED TO THE AVERAGE WHICH INCREASED TO 6.7 PERCENT IN FEBRUARY. FOR A CLOSER LOOK AT THE NUMBERS WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH LARRY PARKER PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WITH THE STATE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT. EC

MARCH 31 – LOOKS LIKE SPRING IS FINALLY HERE TO STAY AND THAT COULD MEAN A RISE IN JOBS. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH CBS BUSINESS NEWS ANALYST JILL SCHLESSINGER ABOUT THE NATION'S UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS AND WHAT THE MARKETS ARE LOOKING THIS WEEK. EC

ED- Education/PSA/Science

JANUARY 6 – NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK BEGINS ON JANUARY 26TH. THE FOURTH-ANNUAL EVENT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE SCHOOL CHOICE AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY WHERE IT EXISTS AND DEMAND IT WHERE IT DOESN'T. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH ANDREW CAMPANELLA- THE PRESIDENT OF NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK- TO FIND OUT WHERE THIS TOUR WILL TAKE PLACE. ED

JANUARY 6 – A LITERARY CLASSIC WILL STAY ON AN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL READING LIST... FOR NOW. MORE FROM WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN AND CHRIS BROOK LEGAL DIRECTOR FOR THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA. ED

JANUARY 9 – THIS WEEK'S DEEP FREEZE HAS CREATED HEATING PROBLEMS IN A COUPLE OF THE RESIDENCE HALLS AT UNC-CHAPEL HILLS AND CAUSED AT LEAST ONE PIPE TO BURST. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE HAS THE DETAILS. ED

JANUARY 9 – THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION IS ISSUING NEW GUIDELINES ON SCHOOL DISCIPLINE THAT THE ACLU CALLS "GROUNDBREAKING." CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT PAM COULTER REPORTS.. ED

JANUARY 10 – THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION IS ENCOURAGING PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO MOVE AWAY FROM ZERO TOLERANCE DISCIPLINE POLICIES THAT MANY ADOPTED IN THE 19-90'S. RESEARCH SHOWS THAT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT HAVE ADOPTED THE GET TOUGH POLICIES, MINORITY STUDENTS WERE PUNISHED MORE HARSHLY AND FREQUENTLY. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN LEARNS MORE FROM JANE WETTACH (WEDDEK) DIRECTOR OF THE CHILDREN'S LAW CLINIC AT DUKE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL. ED

JANUARY 10 – THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS GIVEN FINAL APPROVAL TO 26 NEW PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, ALLOWING THEM TO OPEN THEIR DOORS TO STUDENTS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DARRELL ALLISON- PRESIDENT OF PARENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM IN NORTH CAROLINA- TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT MEANS FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN THE STATE. ED

JANUARY 13 – 57 COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA NOW HAVE CHARTER SCHOOLS AFTER THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVED 26 NEW PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DARRELL ALLISON- PRESIDENT OF PARENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM IN NORTH CAROLINA- TO FIND OUT WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE MORE CHARTER SCHOOLS IN THE STATE. ED

JANUARY 17 – THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA LEGAL FOUNDATION HAS SENT A PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST TO THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEEKING ALL COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN OFFICIALS RELATED TO RECENT EFFORTS TO

BAN ALICE WALKER'S PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING NOVEL, "THE COLOR PURPLE," FROM BRUNSWICK COUNTY ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) ENGLISH CLASSES... WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH CHRIS BROOK LEGAL DIRECTOR WITH THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA. ED

JANUARY 20 – LAST WEEK, THE GROUP WAKE UP WAKE COUNTY HELD ITS ANNUAL MEETING AND TALKED ABOUT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT. BUT, THE GROUP IS KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON THE RECENTLY PASSED WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BONDS AS BRUCE FERRELL FOUND OUT AS HE TALKED WITH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KAREN RINDGE. ED

JANUARY 22 – HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO GIVE THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT JIM MERRILL YOUR TWO CENTS -- BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH SCHOOL SPOKESPERSON RENEE MCCOY. ED

JANUARY 23 – FORMER NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR BEV PERDUE IS BACK IN THE NEWS -- AS SHE IS PART OF WHAT'S BEING CALLED DIGILEARN. IT IS AN INITIATIVE TO EXPAND THE USE OF ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE THE LEARNING PROCESS. SHE JOINED FORMER WYOMING GOV. JIM GERINGER WEDNESDAY ON THE CAMPUS OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY IN RALEIGH. TO ANNOUNCED THE PROGRAM. ED

FEBRUARY 3 – A NEW KIDS COUNT DATA SNAPSHOT SHOWS SOME DISCOURAGING NEWS FOR READING PROFICIENCY IN FOURTH-GRADE STUDENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA AND ACROSS THE NATION. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH LAILA BELL- DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND DATA AT NC CHILD- TO GET THE LATEST. ED

FEBRUARY 4 – THE HIGH COST OF COLLEGE HAS SOME YOUNG WOMEN LOOKING AT SOME ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO PAY FOR THEIR EDUCATION THAT'S RAISING EYEBROWS, AS DONNA MARTINEZ FOUND OUT FROM JENNA ASHLEY ROBINSON WITH THE POPE CENTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION. ED

FEBRUARY 5 – A MAJOR MILESTONE FOR MAGNET SCHOOLS IN WAKE COUNTY THIS YEAR...30 YEARS. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH TAMANI (TUH-MON-KNEE) ANDERSON POWELL- DIRECTOR OF MARKETING FOR MAGNET SCHOOLS IN WAKE COUNTY- TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS ANNIVERSARY MEANS AND HOW MAGNET SCHOOLS SET THEMSELVES APART FROM TRADITIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS. ED

FEBRUARY 6 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - DR. DAVID ZONDERMAN OF NCSU HISTORY FACULTY ON PUBLIC HISTORY AND NCSU HISTORY WEEKEND - ED

FEBRUARY 6 – HE'S BEEN ON THE JOB LESS THAN TWO YEARS, BUT N.C. STATE UNIVERSITY'S DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE OF LIFE SCIENCES HAS WASTED NO TIME MAKES CHANGES HE BELIEVES ARE FOR THE BETTER. HE TALKED WITH SFNTODAY.COM'S RHONDA GARRISON AT THE SOUTHERN FARM SHOW. ED

FEBRUARY 7 – FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WILL HAVE PROFESSORS AT THE HEAD OF SOME ITS CLASSROOMS! THE COLLEGE IS IMPLEMENTING A NEW FACULTY RANK SYSTEM TO PROVIDE A CLEARLY-MARKED PATH TO PROMOTION FOR INSTRUCTORS. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH SCHOOL PRESIDENT DR. STEPHEN SCOTT ABOUT THE FIRST GROUP WHO WILL RECEIVE THE DESIGNATION. ED

FEBRUARY 7 – THIS PAST WEEK, WAKE FOREST COLLEGE -- NOW UNIVERSITY -- CELEBRATED IT'S 180TH BIRTHDAY... IN THIS WEEK'S "CAROLINA COLOR" SEGMENT, HISTORIAN WARREN BINGHAM OFFERS INSIGHT ON OLD WAKE FOREST W/ WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON. ED

FEBRUARY 18 – A JUDGE HEARD THREE MOTIONS IN A LAWSUIT OVER NORTH CAROLINA'S NEW PRIVATE SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM MONDAY. ONE WOULD HALT THE VOUCHERS, THE SECOND WOULD DISMISS THE LAWSUIT AND THE THIRD IS FROM A SCHOOL-CHOICE GROUP WANTING TO HELP IN THE STATE'S DEFENSE. ALSO ON MONDAY, THE INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN DEFENSE OF THE SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM. HERE'S A CLIP OF DICK COMER AND RENEE FLAHERTY, ATTORNEYS FOR THE INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE, ADDRESSING WHAT THE VOUCHER PROGRAM IS AND WHAT IT OFFERS. ED

FEBRUARY 27 – A RECENT HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY POLL FOUND A MAJORITY OF THOSE CONTACTED GAVE NORTH CAROLINA'S PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM AN "AVERAGE" RATING BUT SAID IT WAS GOING IN THE "WRONG DIRECTION" .. BRUCE FERRELL PICKS UP THE TOPIC WITH DON MARTIN, AN HPU EDUCATION PROFESSOR AND A FORMER LONGTIME SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT IN A LOCAL DISTRICT. ED

MARCH 4 – EDUCATORS FROM AROUND THE U.S. GATHERED LAST WEEK IN WASHINGTON D.C. TO ADDRESS DIGITAL TRANSITION STRATEGIES DURING DISCOVERY EDUCATION'S 'FUTURE@NOW DIGITAL LEARNING CONFERENCE.' JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH ONE OF THE ATTENDEES FROM NORTH CAROLINA -- NASH-ROCKY MOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT DR. ANTHONY JACKSON -- WHO DISCUSSED THE TRANSITION THEY'RE LEADING IN THEIR SCHOOL SYSTEM. ED

MARCH 4 – A TECH COMPANY WITH LOCAL TIES AND A DURHAM NON-PROFIT ARE TEAMING UP THIS WEEK FOR STUDENTS AT WORK. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH KAREN ONDRIC- CHIEF CONNECTOR AT LENOVO- TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS PROGRAM AND WHAT TRIANGLE COUNTIES ARE INVOLVED. ED

MARCH 5 – LAST NIGHT THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD UNANIMOUSLY PASSED A RESOLUTION TUESDAY EVENING OPPOSING A CONTROVERSIAL TEACHER TENURE LAW. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE REPORTS. ED

MARCH 6 – THE DURHAM SCHOOL BOARD HAS HELD A VOTE CONCERNING THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN A LAWSUIT OVER PERFORMANCE-BASED TEACHER PAY. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS THE RESULT OF THAT VOTE. ED

MARCH 10 – LAST WEEK, THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD UNANIMOUSLY PASSED A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE STATE'S PLAN TO OFFER PAY RAISES TO TOP TEACHERS IN RETURN FOR THEIR GIVING UP TENURE RIGHTS. BILL LUMAYE FINDS OUT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD, CHRISTINE KUSHNER, WHY THEY VOTED AGAINST THE ELIMINATION OF TEACHER TENURE. ED

MARCH 11 – A LEGISLATIVE LEADER REMEMBERED AND TEACHER TENURE DEBATED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL... ANALYSIS ON THESE TOPICS FROM THE CAROL INIAN'S CASH MICHEALS WHO TALKED WITH OUR PATRICK JOHNSON. ED

MARCH 11 – A TEAM OF STUDENTS AT PHILLIPS MIDDLE SCHOOL IN CHAPEL HILL KNOWN AS THE TRASH TERMINATORS 2.0 RECENTLY TOOK HOME A 15-THOUSAND-DOLLAR FIRST PLACE AWARD IN THE LEXUS ECO CHALLENGE WHERE TEAMS OF STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY COMPETE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS TOTALING 500-THOUSAND DOLLARS. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH 8TH GRADERS QUINTON SEREDSKY AND ROHAN DESHPANDE. ED

MARCH 13 – ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, THE AVERAGE TEACHER SALARIES FOR NORTH CAROLINA REMAIN RANKED 46TH IN THE NATION. BILL LUMAYE ASKED TAMMY COVIL (COE-VILL), EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR BESTSCHOOLSNC, ON A SURVEY ON WHAT THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA THINK OF THIS ISSUE THAT HAS GOVERNOR MCCRORY PROMISING TO RAISE TEACHER SALARIES. ED

MARCH 31 – DURING THURSDAY'S UNC CHAPEL HILL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS, MEMBERS HEARD FROM A NUMBER OF STUDENT ATHLETES ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE OVERALL -- INCLUDING IN THE CLASSROOM.. AMONG THOSE WHO SPOKE WAS TAR HEEL GYMNAST MICHELLE IKOMA (EE-COMA). HERE ARE SOME OF HER COMMENTS COURTESY OF CAROLINA CONNECTION, THE STUDENT NEWSCAST FROM THE UNC SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION. ED

EH - Environment/Health

JANUARY 2 – SHOWERS COMBINED WITH A STRONG COLD FRONT WILL BRING MUCH COLDER TEMPERATURES AND THE CHANCE THAT WET ROADWAYS COULD BECOME ICE RINKS TONIGHT, AS BRIAN FREEMAN FOUND OUT FROM ACCUWEATHER'S BILL DAGAR. EH

JANUARY 3 – A SIGNIFICANT WINTER STORM IS BRINGING SNOW, STIFF WINDS AND PUNISHING COLD TO THE NORTHEAST. WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR THE TRIANGLE, AND WILL IT HAVE LASTING AFFECTS ON OUR WEEKEND? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS THE ANSWERS WITH ACCUWEATHER METEOROLOGIST MAGGIE JOHNSON. EH

JANUARY 6 – WINTER IS HEADED OUR WAY THIS WEEK AND THE TEMPERATURES ARE GOING TO DROP. DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE TALKED WITH BOB SWEET WITH STREAMLINE PLUMBING ON WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM THE COLD AND KEEP YOUR WATER FROM FREEZING OVERNIGHT. EH

JANUARY 6 – WINTER IS FINALLY GOING TO CATCH UP WITH US THIS WEEK. BRIAN LEARNS WHAT WE CAN EXPECT THESE NEXT FEW DAYS FROM ACCUWEATHER'S DAN D'PODWIN. EH

JANUARY 7 – WHILE THIS MORNING OUR AREA WAS NEAR 0 DEGREES, SOME PLACES AROUND THE COUNTRY WERE REACHING NEGATIVE THIRTY DEGREES! BRIAN FREEMAN TALKS WITH JIM KRASULA FROM CBS ON THE EXTENT OF THIS EXTREME COLD FRONT OVER THE UNITED STATES. EH

JANUARY 8 – SHELTERS AROUND THE AREA WERE FLYING A WHITE FLAG LAST NIGHT. VOLUNTEERS WERE RAMPING UP THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP THE HOMELESS FIND SHELTER FROM THE BRUTAL COLD. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE REPORTS. EH

JANUARY 15 – MORROW MOUNTAIN STATE PARK IN STANLY COUNTY IS INVOLVED IN A PROJECT WITH THE STATE DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO RELOCATE WHITE-TAILED DEER TO LANDS OF THE EASTERN BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS. BRUCE FERRELL GETS MORE ON THE ALMOST ONE-OF-A-KIND PROJECT FROM PARKS SPOKESMAN CHARLIE PEEK. EH

JANUARY 15 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW METEOROLOGIST ROD GONSKI TALKS ABOUT THE WEATHER – EH

JANUARY 29 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - OPEN PHONES FOR WEATHER STORIES - EH

FEBRUARY 5 – LAST WEEK, THE STATE DEPARTMENT RELEASED A LONG-ANTICIPATED STUDY OF THE LIKELY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE. IF APPROVED, THE PROJECT WOULD MOVE 830,000 OF BARRELS OF CRUDE OIL FROM THE ALBERTA TAR SANDS IN CANADA TO REFINERIES ON THE GULF COAST OF TEXAS EVERY DAY. BILL LUMAYE TALKED WITH ALGENON CASH, STATE CHAIR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ENERGY FORUM AND THE MINORITY ENGAGEMENT DIRECTOR OF AMERICA'S ENERGY FORUM. CASH SAYS THE PROJECT WILL BRING A LOT OF BENEFITS TO AMERICA. EH

FEBRUARY 7 – THERE ARE GROWING CONCERNS FROM STATE LAWMAKERS CONCERNING THE 3RD LARGEST COAL ASH SPILL IN U.S. HISTORY. THE SPILL HAPPENED IN EDEN ON SUNDAY AND NEW CONFLICTING INFORMATION IS COMING OUT ABOUT THIS LEAK. WTVD TV'S KAITLYN KNUTE REPORTS. EH

FEBRUARY 18 – ON FRIDAY PRESIDENT OBAMA'S ANNOUNCED PLANS TO INCLUDE A \$1 BILLION "CLIMATE RESILIENCE FUND" IN HIS BUDGET PROPOSAL. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH BILLY PIZER ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AT THE SANFORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY EH

FEBRUARY 26 – ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES PRESENTED A PETITION TO DUKE ENERGY, TUESDAY IN CHARLOTTE, DEMANDING UTILITY TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COAL ASH SPILL INTO THE DAN RIVER, AND ALSO DEMAND THAT DUKE ENERGY PAY FOR THE ENTIRE COST OF THE CLEAN UP. JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED THE COST OF CLEANUP WITH PROF. RICHARD NEWELL, DIRECTOR OF DUKE UNIVERSITY'S ENERGY INITIATIVE AT THE NICHOLAS SCHOOL OF THE ENVIRONMENT. EH

FEBRUARY 28 – OFFICIALS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES HAS TAKEN STEPS TO LOWER THE WATER LEVELS IN A PRIVATE FUQUAY-VARINA LAKE AT RISK OF FAILURE. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED DENR SPOKESMAN JAMIE KRITZER (KRITE-ZUR) ABOUT THE SHERMAN LOWER LAKES DAM. EH

MARCH 3 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-NICK PETRO,NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE-ON SPRING SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK- EH

MARCH 4 – THE SEVERE ICE STORM THAT HIT THE TRIANGLE YESTERDAY CONTINUES TO AFFECT THE AREA WITH NUMEROUS SCHOOLS DISTRICTS CLOSED, HIGHWAYS AND BACK ROADS COVERED IN ICE AND WRECKED CARS AND NCDOT BATTLING GLAZED ROADWAYS. WPTF WITH CONTINUOUS STORMWATCH COVERAGE AND REPORTS FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY PATROL, ACCUWEATHER AND THE WPTF NEWS TEAM. EH

MARCH 11 – THE WINTER STORM THAT KNOCKED OUT POWER FOR THUNDERED OF THOUSANDS HAS AGAIN RAISED THE QUESTION ABOUT THE LOCATION OF POWER LINES .. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH MEGHAN MUSGRAVE AT DUKE ENERGY ABOUT WHETHER MOVING THOSE LINES UNDERGROUND IS A GOOD IDEA. EH

MARCH 18 – THE NEUSE RIVERKEEPER FOUNDATION AND WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE HAVE ISSUED A NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE THE OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF STANTONSBURG FARM TO STOP ILLEGAL DISCHARGES OF SWINE WASTE INTO GROUNDWATER, WETLANDS, AND STREAMS IN STANTONSBURG,

NORTH CAROLINA. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH LARRY BALDWIN OF WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE TO FIND OUT MORE. EH

MARCH 20 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY IS FIRING BACK ABOUT THE CRITICISM HIS ADMINISTRATION IS GETTING ABOUT ITS HANDLING OF COAL ASH PITS OWNED BY DUKE ENERGY -- AMID THE LEAK INTO THE DAN RIVER. HE SPOKE WITH HENRY HINTON WITH RADIO STATION WTIB. EH

MARCH 26 – THE STATEWIDE BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN RALEIGH MONDAY TO RELEASE A NEW REPORT ON COAL ASH CLEANUP IN NORTH CAROLINA. IN THE REPORT, THE ORGANIZATION DETAILED WHY TRANSFERRING THE TOXIC ASH FROM PLANT SITES TO DOUBLE-LINED LANDFILLS WAS A BAD IDEA. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH LOU ZELLER- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE- TO FIND OUT WHY. EH

MARCH 27 – THE STATEWIDE BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN RALEIGH MONDAY TO RELEASE A NEW REPORT ON COAL ASH CLEANUP IN NORTH CAROLINA. SOME HAVE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR HAULING THE TOXIC ASH FROM PLANT SITES TO DOUBLE-LINED LANDFILLS, BUT THE LEAGUE'S REPORT SHOWS THAT LANDFILLING WOULD ENDANGER PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH LOU ZELLER- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE- TO FIND OUT WHAT ALTERNATIVE IS AVAILABLE EH

GA – Government Affairs

JANUARY 1 – AFTER THE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION IN DOWNTOWN RALEIGH ENDED, CLEANING CREWS STARTED THEIR JOBS TO MAKE THE CITY SPOTLESS AGAIN. WTVD TV'S SHEYENNE RODRIGUEZ REPORTS ON THEIR PROGRESS. GA

JANUARY 2 – FORMER CONGRESSMAN AND STATE SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT BOB ETHERIDGE IS THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL AGENCY THAT OVERSEES SOME AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS AND KEEPS FARMERS ABREAST OF OTHER INITIATIVES .. RHONDA GARRISON WITH SFNTODAY.COM CAUGHT UP WITH ETHERIDGE ABOUT HIS NEW JOB, GA

JANUARY 7 – BEGINNING SATURDAY JANUARY 11TH CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR THE TOWN OF CARY WILL START CONTACTING MORE THAN 400 RESIDENTS ASKING THEM TO STATE THEIR OPINIONS ON HOW WELL THEIR GOVERNMENT WORKS FOR THEM. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH SUSAN MORAN TOWN OF CARY PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR SUSAN MORAN. GA

JANUARY 8 – THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SAYS MEDICAID CARDS FOR NEARLY 49,000 OF NORTH CAROLINA'S CHILDREN WERE INCORRECTLY SENT TO THE WRONG ADDRESSES. JOSH ZACH TALKED TO STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER ABOUT THE MIX-UP ... HE SAYS THE AFFECTED FAMILIES CAN TAKE STEPS TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE IDENTITY THEFT AND HEALTH CARE FRAUD. GA

JANUARY 10 – THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS THREATENING TO PULL FUNDING FROM THE TROUBLED NC FOOD STAMP PROGRAM KNOWN AS NCFAS. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE HAS THE REACTION. GA

JANUARY 13 – THIS WEEKEND'S EDITION OF CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS WITH DON CURTIS FEATURED CONGRESSMAN GEORGE HOLDING. IN THIS SEGMENT, THE CONGRESSMAN LOOKED AT THE FUTURE OF TAXES. GA

JANUARY 14 - IN THE FIRST OF WHAT WILL BE A REGULAR SERIES OF INTERVIEWS WITH MAYORS FROM AROUND THE AREA, BRUCE FERRELL GETS AN UPDATE ON WHAT'S GOING IN GARNER FROM MAYOR RONNIE WILLIAMS. GA

JANUARY 14 - WE'VE LEARNED THAT PRESIDENT OBAMA WILL VISIT N.C. STATE AROUND MIDDAY ON WEDNESDAY TO TOUT THE ECONOMY. .. BRUCE FERRELL GETS MORE PERSPECTIVE ON THE VISIT FROM N.C. STATE POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR ANDY TAYLOR. GA

JANUARY 17 – DOCTORS HAVE FILED A LAW SUIT AGAINST THE N.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE VENDORS USED TO BUILD THE MEDICAID CLAIMS PAYMENT SYSTEM KNOWN AS NCTRACKS. WHAT'S AT STAKE AND WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE FUTURE OF DHHS SECRETARY ALDONA WOS? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS MORE FROM SGRTODAY.COM'S BARLOW HERGET. GA

JANUARY 21 – OUR WEEKLY SERIES WITH MAYORS ROUND THE REGION CONTINUES AS BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH DICK SEARS OF HOLLY SPRINGS -- ESPECIALLY A NEW PROJECT TO HELP THE TOWN BUILD ITS SENSE OF COMMUNITY. GA

JANUARY 22 – IN LAYING OUT HIS STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE STATE IN 2014, GOV. PAT MCCRORY AND HIS CABINET MEMBERS HELD A NEWS CONFERENCE ON TUESDAY TO DISCUSS THEIR TOP PRIORITIES. THE 2ND YEAR REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR SAID CONCENTRATING ON THE ENERGY SECTOR IS A TOP PRIORITY IN THE 2014 SHORT LEGISLATIVE SESSION. GA

FEBRUARY 3 – A FAMILIAR NAME IN TAR HEEL POLITICS IS TAKING ON A NEW CHALLENGE -- AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE'S ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION .. ON THIS PAST SUNDAY'S CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS, DON CURTIS TALKED WITH FORMER LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JIM GARDNER ABOUT HOW THE STATE'S ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WORKS AND SOME OF THE ISSUES AROUND ALCOHOL USE. GA

FEBRUARY 4 – A HEARING IS SCHEDULED FOR TODAY INTO WHAT'S DESCRIBED AS A "MASSIVE FRAUD" IN THE U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD RECRUITING PROGRAM. THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS ARE BEING LOOKED AT TO SEE IF THEY PRETENDED TO HAVE PERSUADED FRIENDS TO ENLIST AND SHARED A CASH-REWARD WITH RECRUITERS. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH CBS NEWS MILITARY ANALYST, RETIRED ARMY MAJOR MIKE LYONS ABOUT THE HEARING AND THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS THAT WERE SCAMMED INTO SOLDIERS' POCKETS. GA

FEBRUARY 12 – 13 – 14 – NEWSRADIO 680 WPTF PROVIDED CONTINUES SNOW STORM COVERAGE WITH FIELD REPORTS ON WHAT TO EXPECT FROM A MAJOR WEATHER SYSTEM THAT DROPPED UP TO SIX INCHES OF SNOW ON THE RALEIGH AREA. REPORTS ALSO INCLUDED ACTIONS BEING TAKEN BY LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT IN THE CATEGORIES OF PREPAREDNESS, ACTION AND REACTION TO THE STORM. GA

FEBRUARY 17 – THE STORM CLEANUP IS UNDERWAY -- AND SO IS THE EVALUATION OF THE RESPONSE AS BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH CARY'S MAYOR HAROLD WEINBRECHT. GA

FEBRUARY 17 – GOVERNOR PAT MCCRORY IS WASTING NO TIME LOOKING AT HOW THE STATE CAN RESPOND BETTER NEXT TIME THERE'S A WEATHER EVENT -- HE ADDRESSES SOME OF THE AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT WHEN HE SPOKE FRIDAY ABOUT THE STORM EFFORT. GA

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MARCH 12 – STATE REP PAT MCELRAFT -- REPUBLICAN FROM CARTERET COUNTY -- IS COMING TO THE AID OF FAMILIES WHOSE CHILDREN SUFFER FORM SEIZURES... SHE PLANS TO FILE A BILL THAT WOULD LEGALIZE AN ORAL EXTRACTED FROM A SPECIFIC STRAIN OF MARIJUANA... WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON TALKED WITH POLITICAL CONSULTANT DOUG RAYMOND -- WHO HAS WORKED WITH MCELRAFT ON HER PREVIOUS CAMPAIGNS -- ABOUT THIS. GA

MARCH 31 – SIGNS MAY BE GETTING A FACELIFT IN DOWNTOWN RALEIGH. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE TAKES A CLOSER LOOK AT THE WRITING ON THE WALL CONCERNING POTENTIAL CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF ADVERTISING SIGNS IN THE CAPITOL CITY'S BUSINESSES. GA

MARCH 31 – THE NEW WAKE COUNTY MANAGER -- JIM HARTMANN -- BEGINS THE JOB HERE ON APRIL 14. MR. HARTMANN SPOKE WITH WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON ABOUT HIS PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE AS HE PREPARES TO MOVE TO RALEIGH. GA

GR - Growth/Transportation/Roads

JANUARY 3 – WHILE THEY ARE STILL NOT EXACTLY CHEAP, WE DID PAY LESS AT THE GAS PUMP LAST YEAR --AND WHAT'S THE PROSPECT FOR THIS YEAR? BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH ANGELA VOGEL-DALEY FROM AAA CAROLINAS. GR

JANUARY 9 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW- A VISIT FROM THE "NIGHT-TIME MECHANIC" THOMAS OWEN OF TAO AUTO TO ANSWER AUTO REPAIR QUESTIONS - GR

JANUARY 14 - THE VOTES ARE IN AND THE CHEVROLET CORVETTE STINGRAY AND CHEVY SILVERADO HAVE BEEN NAMED THE NORTH AMERICAN CAR AND TRUCK OF THE YEAR. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH JOHN FITZPATRICK- MARKET MANAGER WITH CORVETTE- TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS HONOR, WHICH IS THE FIRST TIME CHEVY HAS EVER TAKEN HOME BOTH AWARDS, MEANS TO THEM. GR

JANUARY 16 – IN THE COMING WEEKS EACH OF THE 14 NCDOT TRANSPORTATION DIVISIONS ACROSS THE STATE WILL SUBMIT ITS TOP TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES TO COMPETE WITH OTHER TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS THE STATE FOR FUNDINGWPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH STEVE ABBOT IS WITH THE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. GR

JANUARY 21 – WITH TODAY'S FORECAST PREDICTING A POSSIBILITY OF SNOW, PEOPLE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE ROADS. SOME ARE THINKING ABACK TO 2005 THAT'S WHEN A HALF INCH OF SNOW PARALYZED TRAFFIC ACROSS THE AREA. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE REPORTS ON THE DOT'S DECISION NOT TO PREP THE ROADS OVERNIGHT. GR

JANUARY 22 – NEW RULES ARE TAKING FLIGHT AT SOME OF THE NATION'S TOP AIRPORTS. FEDERAL AIR- SAFETY REGULATORS HAVE ORDERED CHANGES IN TAKEOFF AND LANDING PROCEDURES AT MORE THAN A DOZEN LARGE AIRPORTS. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN LEARNS MORE FROM ..CBS NEWS AVIATION SAFETY ANALYST MARK ROSENKER GR

FEBRUARY 26 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DEAN BAILEY AND DON GRIFFIN-GUEST MECHANICS FIELD CAR REPAIR QUESTIONS- GR

JANUARY 30 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - DON GRIFFIN OF GRIFFINS TRANSMISSION SERVICE ANSWERS AUTO REPAIR QUESTIONS - GR

FEBRUARY 6 – MILLENIALS ARE ABANDONING CARS, ACCORDING TO A RECENT REPORT THAT SAYS YOUNG PEOPLE ARE CHOOSING TO LIVE CLOSER TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION. MANY OF THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES LIKE NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE SPOKE WITH NC STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INTERIM DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING AND OPERATIONS TO FIND OUT HOW THEY ARE KEEPING UP WITH THE TRENDS. GR

FEBRUARY 7 – THE CHICAGO AUTO SHOW OFFICIALLY KICKS OFF ON SATURDAY, BUT CHEVROLET GOT OFF TO AN EARLY START, INTRODUCING ITS SILVERADO CMG ON THURSDAY. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH MIKE JONES- PRODUCT MANAGER FOR THE SILVERADO CMG- TO GET ALL THE DETAILS. GR

MARCH 5 – IT HAS BEEN A SORE SPOT IN THE LAST COUPLE OF WINTER STORMS -- BUT ANYTHING BE DONE TO MAKE IT EASIER ? BRUCE FERRELL REPORTS. GR

MARCH 6 – TRAFFIC IS A PAIN THAT ALL OF US WOULD LIKE TO AVOID IF POSSIBLE. SO, IS THERE A WAY THAT YOU CAN PREDICT HOW LONG A TRIP IS GOING TO TAKE BEFORE LEAVING HOME? BRANDON DICKSON GOT THE ANSWER FROM JIM BAK (BOCK)- AUTHOR OF THE ANNUAL INRIX TRAFFIC SCORECARD. GR

MARCH 11 – PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION RIDERSHIP IS REACHING RECORD LEVELS, ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL RIDERSHIP REPORT WHICH WAS RELEASED MONDAY. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH CAROLYN FLOWERS- CEO OF THE CHARLOTTE AREA TRANSIT SYSTEM- TO FIND OUT WHAT THIS REPORT SHOWED. GR

MARCH 18 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-BOBBY DUNN IS THE "NIGHT-TIME MECHANIC" ANSWERING CAR CARE QUESTIONS- GR

HO – Housing

MARCH 11 – NORTH CAROLINA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY IS A PUBLIC AGENCY THAT STRIVES TO CREATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES. SINCE ITS CREATION IN 1973 BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE AGENCY HAS FINANCED MORE THAN 221,000 AFFORDABLE HOMES AND APARTMENTS, TOTALING \$14.8

BILLION...YET YOU MAY NEVER HAVE HEARD OF THE AGENCY. BRIAN FREEMAN LEARNED MORE IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH NCHFA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BOB KUCAB (KOO-CAB). HO

HSM – Health, Safety and Medical Affairs

JANUARY 3 – FROM A SEVERE FLU SEASON TO THE SUPER-FEAR OVER SUPERBUGS, STORIES ABOUT HEALTH DOMINATED HEADLINES IN 2013. AN END-OF-YEAR REPORT RELEASED IN DECEMBER RANKS EACH STATE ON IT'S READINESS TO COMBAT INFECTIOUS DISEASES ... JOSH ZACH DISCUSSED THE FINDINGS WITH DR. CAMERON WOLFE, AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES PHYSICIAN AT DUKE MEDICAL CENTER. HSM

JANUARY 6 – 40% OF AMERICANS MADE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS LAST YEAR, BUT UP TO HALF WERE LIKELY TO BREAK TO THEIR PROMISE BEFORE THE FIRST MONTH WAS OVER. AND WE ALL KNOW THE NUMBER ONE VOW: LOSING WEIGHT. SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAD THE DIETERS? NUTRISYSTEM CEO DAWN ZIER TALKS WITH "CBS THIS MORNING" ABOUT DIETING AND HOW TO MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU THIS YEAR. HSM

JANUARY 6 – DRIVEN BY THE DESIRE FOR FRESH FOOD, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE OPTING TO RAISE CHICKENS IN THEIR BACKYARDS. WHILE THE CHICKENS CAN PROVIDE EGGS FOR UP TO TWO YEARS, MANY ARE FINDING THAT THE MESS AND UPKEEP THAT COMES WITH CARING FOR THE ANIMALS ISN'T WORTH IT. CBS' JOHN BLACKSTONE REPORTS. HSM

JANUARY 7 – AN UNUSUAL PROGRAM IN WAKE COUNTY IS CATCHING THE ATTENTION OF THE REST OF THE COUNTRY, SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS HAS BEEN TRACED BACK TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE, AND CONCUSSIONS NEED A BREATHER. HERE'S KERRI DAVIS WITH MORE ON THESE STORIES. HSM

JANUARY 8 – DUE TO AN INCREASING NUMBER OF FLU CASES, DUKE MEDICINE HAS IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS ON HOSPITAL VISITS TO PROTECT PATIENTS. SIMILAR MEASURE HAVE BEEN TAKEN AT OTHER AREA HOSPITALS AND DUKE INFECTIOUS DISEASES PHYSICIAN, DR CAMERON WOLFE, TELLS JOSH ZACH THE MOVE HELPS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS. HSM

JANUARY 9 – IT WAS 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK SURGEON GENERAL LUTHER TERRY RELEASED A LANDMARK REPORT ON THE RISKS OF SMOKING. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN HAS MORE. HSM

JANUARY 9 – ANOTHER DAY IN THE D-H-H-S - MEDICAID CARD DEBACLE AND NOW WORD THAT THOSE CAUGHT UP IN THIS MISTAKE COULD FILE SUIT AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT. POLITICAL ANALYST JEANNE BONDS TELLS OUR PATRICK JOHNSON WHY. HSM

JANUARY 9 – IT'S SOMETHING THAT ROUGHLY ONE PERCENT OF AMERICANS HAVE, BUT ALMOST ALL OF THEM DON'T KNOW IT...CELIAC (SEE-LEE-ACK) DISEASE. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED TO DR. DANIEL LEFFLER- DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AT THE CELIAC CENTER AT BETH ISRAEL DEACONESS MEDICAL CENTER IN MASSACHUSETTS- TO FIND OUT WHAT THE DISEASE IS AND ITS SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS. HSM

JANUARY 9 – THERE'S BEEN A SPIKE IN FLU CASES HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA. NEW INFORMATION SHOULD BE RELEASED TODAY ON HOW IT'S AFFECTING OUR STATE. WTVD TV'S SHEYENNE RODRIGUEZ REPORTS. HSM

JANUARY 10 – RICKY DIAS -- D-H-H-S COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR -- LEAVING THAT POST IN THE WAKE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S MISSTEP OF MAILING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF MEDICAID CARDS -- WITH PERSONAL AND MEDICAL INFORMATION -- TO WRONG ADDRESSES. WILL THE DIAZ DEPARTURE SILENCE CRITICS OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES? WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON ASKED POLITICAL ANALYST FARUK OKCETIN (FAH-ROOK OCK-SEH-TIN) THAT QUESTION. HSM

JANUARY 13 – SATURDAY MARKS(ED) THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST "SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT ON SMOKING AND HEALTH." THIS YEAR'S REPORT WILL HIGHLIGHT PROGRESS MADE SINCE THEN, PROVIDE NEW DATA ON HEALTH CONSEQUENCES AND DETAIL INITIATIVES AIMED AT FURTHER CURBING TOBACCO USE.....WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH GARY BENNETT IS A PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY, GLOBAL HEALTH AND MEDICINE, DUKE UNIVERSITY. HSM

JANUARY 14 - EVERYONE NEEDS A LITTLE R-AND-R, BUT NOT WHAT YOU THINK, WELL, AT LEAST PART OF IT. NUTRITIONIST AND HEALTH AUTHOR JANE MCCLARREN EXPLAINS AS SHE TALKS W/ WTPF'S PATRICK JOHNSON.. HSM

JANUARY 15 – THE TECHNOLOGY THAT IS USED TO MAKE ANIMATED FILMS IS THE SAME TECHNOLOGY THAT HELPS CHILDREN WITH DISABLING PHYSICAL CONDITIONS LEARN TO WALK AND RUN. THIS ACCORDING TO DR. ROY DAVIS- DIRECTOR OF THE SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN AND GREENVILLE (SOUTH CAROLINA) MOVEMENT ANALYSIS. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON SPOKE WITH DR. DAVIS TO FIND OUT THE CONNECTION. HSM

JANUARY 16 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-BARRY PORTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS-SURVEYS RED CROSS ACTIVITIES - HSM

JANUARY 17 – GOVERNOR MCCRORY AND OTHER TOP STATE LEADERS WERE ON HAND IN CARY (THURSDAY EVENING) FOR A RIBBON CUTTING FOR THE FIRST CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY FOR RESIDENTS 62 AND OLDER TO A APPROVED IN THE STATE SINCE 2009. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH SEARSTONE'S MORGAN LAMPEHERE (LAMB-FEAR). HSM

JANUARY 20 – HEALTH ADVOCATES ARE POINTING TO PROGRESS BEING MADE TO REDUCE TOBACCO USE, 50 YEARS AFTER THE SURGEON GENERAL WARNED THAT SMOKING WAS HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH. BUT, MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE. TO TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT HAS BEEN DONE SO FAR -- AND WHAT STILL NEEDS WORK, BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH PAM SEAMANS, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH. HSM

JANUARY 20 – THERE IS A COMPONENT OF TREATMENT FOR CHILDREN LIVING WITH SERIOUS ILLNESSES THAT YOU PROBABLY NEVER HEARD OF BEFORE ... AND WHILE RESEARCH HAS SHOWN THAT THIS TREATMENT -- PALLIATIVE CARE -- CAN EASE SYMPTOMS AND IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES, MANY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS HESITATE TO RECOMMEND IT. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. PATRICIA GRADY -- DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH -- TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR CAMPAIGN AIMED TO INCREASE THE USE OF PALLIATIVE CARE FOR PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH SERIOUS ILLNESSES. HSM

JANUARY 22 – THE BIRTH OF A CHILD IS A JOYOUS OCCASION FOR AN ENTIRE FAMILY. HOWEVER, FOR FAMILIES OF BABIES BORN WITH BIRTH DEFECTS IT ALSO BRINGS FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. SCOTT ADZICK TO FIND OUT HOW COMMON BIRTH DEFECTS ARE AND TREATMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE. HSM

JANUARY 22 – THE FLU CONTINUES TO BE A CONCERN AS WE TRAVEL THROUGH THE PEAK MONTHS FOR THE VIRUS. SO, WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. LEONARD FRIEDLAND (FREED-LAND)- WITH GSK PHARMACEUTICALS- TO FIND OUT THE FORECAST FOR THE REST OF THIS YEAR'S FLU SEASON AND HOW LONG IT IS EXPECTED TO LAST. HSM

JANUARY 23 – FOR THE SECOND NIGHT THIS WEEK THE RALEIGH RESCUE MISSION IS WAVING THE WHITE FLAG SHOWING ALL IN NEED THAT THEY'RE TAKING IN MORE PEOPLE IN THE COLD OVERNIGHT. WTVD TV'S ANGELICA ALVAREZ HAS MORE ON PEOPLE FIGHTING THE COLD. HSM

JANUARY 23 – THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IS HERE ... THE OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD IS OPEN BUT PEOPLE STILL HAVE LOTS OF QUESTIONS ... INCLUDING EMPLOYERS. WPTF'S JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH SKIP WOODY FROM HILL, CHESSON & WOODY -- A LOCAL BENEFITS CONSULTING FIRM -- TO PROVIDED SOME ANSWERS TO HELP MAKE SENSE OF IT ALL. HSM

JANUARY 23 – THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION SAYS MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE IN MORE STATES TO CURB TOBACCO USE. MORE FROM WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN. HSM

JANUARY 23 – LONG, DARK NIGHTS. COLD, COLD DAYS. AND LOTS OF TIME IN FRONT OF THE TV. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A PSYCHOLOGIST TO KNOW THAT WINTER CAN FRAY THE NERVES AND DEPRESS THE SPIRIT. BUT THERE ARE WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE COLD MONTHS - AND CREATE SOME MEMORABLE FAMILY TRADITIONS ALONG THE WAY. BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ, HAVE OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. HSM

JANUARY 23 – THE FLU DEATH TOTAL CONTINUES TO RISE ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA, MAKING THE VIRUS OF PARTICULAR CONCERN ACROSS THE STATE. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. LEONARD FRIEDLAND (FREED-LAND)- WITH GSK PHARMACEUTICALS- TO FIND OUT WHAT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THOSE THAT HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE FLU SHOT YET. HSM

JANUARY 24 – TARGET WILL NO LONGER OFFER HEALTH COVERAGE FOR ITS PART-TIMERS. OTHER LARGE EMPLOYERS LIKE UPS ARE SCALING BACK BY DROPPING SPOUSES FROM THEIR EMPLOYEE PLANS IF THEY

CAN GET INSURANCE THROUGH ANOTHER EMPLOYER. DECISIONS LIKE THESE ARE MADE BY COMPANIES TO GET AROUND OBAMACARE. BUT SKIP WOODY -- FROM A TRIANGLE BENEFITS CONSULTING FIRM, HILL, CHESSON & WOODY -- TELLS JOSH ZACH THE MAJORITY OF COMPANIES ARE NOT LEAVING THEIR EMPLOYEE TO FEND FOR THEMSELVES. HSM

JANUARY 24 – THE BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATION IS ANNOUNCING A SECOND \$3 MILLION GRANT OVER THREE YEARS TO THE NORTH CAROLINA PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN. THE MONEY WILL EXPAND SHAPE NC, WHICH IS AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF MORE THAN 1,000 YOUNG NORTH CAROLINA CHILDREN. BRUCE FERRELL GETS MORE FROM JENNIFER MCDUGAL WITH THE SHAPE NC PROJECT. HSM

JANUARY 24 – A PERSON WAS KILLED IN A CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENT LATE THURSDAY MORNING IN NORTHEAST RALEIGH. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH MIKE AGUILAR (AG-YUH-LAR) -- A WORKER WHO WAS AT THE SCENE WHEN THE MAN FELL FROM A FIVE-STORY HEIGHT AT THE APARTMENT COMPLEX CONSTRUCTION SITE ALONG GOODSTONE DRIVE NEAR LOUISBURG AND SPRING FOREST ROADS. HSM

JANUARY 24 – THE 8 TO12-STATE REGION THAT HAS HISTORICALLY BEEN REFERRED TO AS THE BIBLE BELT, IS NOW GARNERING THE INFAMOUS DISTINCTION AS THE STROKE BELT. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH THE "HIP-HOP DOC" DR. RANI WHIFIELD, TO FIND OUT SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS OF A STROKE THAT WILL HELP US BETTER PREDICT AND PREVENT STROKES. HSM

JANUARY 27 – STROKES ARE A MAJOR ISSUE IN THE U-S, BUT ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTHEAST, WHICH IS KNOWN NOW AS THE "STROKE BELT." AND STROKES AREN'T JUST AN "AVERAGE JOE" PROBLEM, THEY AFFECT ALL TYPES OF PEOPLE, INCLUDING CELEBRITIES. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH THE "HIP-HOP DOC" DR. RANI WHIFIELD, TO FIND OUT HOW HE MAKES SURE CELEBRITIES STAY ON TOP OF THEIR HEALTH. HSM

FEBRUARY 4 – IT'S FEBRUARY, AND ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING YOU STORIES OF NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. GAYLE HURD TELLS US THIS NOW HISTORIC LANDMARK PROVIDED THE ONLY MEDICAL TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR BLACKS IN RALEIGH IN THE 1800'S, AND COULD BE THOUGHT OF AS THE PRE-CURSOR TO PRESIDENT OBAMA'S AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. HSM

FEBRUARY 4 – IF YOU'VE EVER HAD SURGERY, BEEN IN A CAR ACCIDENT, OR BROKEN A BONE, YOU KNOW THAT PRESCRIPTION PAIN KILLERS ARE MANY TIMES AN ESSENTIAL PART OF RECOVERY. BUT A GROWING NUMBER OF AMERICANS ARE MISUSING PAIN MEDICATION AND ENDING UP IN THE ER ... OR WORSE. IT'S THE TOPIC OF BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ WITH OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. HSM

FEBRUARY 10 – INCREDIBLY ENOUGH, FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, GUIDELINES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED FOR THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION ON PREVENTING STROKE IN WOMEN. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. CHERYL BUSHNELL- DIRECTOR OF THE STROKE CENTER AT WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER- TO GET THE DETAILS. HSM

FEBRUARY 10 – FROM HIGH-SPEED COMPUTING TO IMAGING TO ROBOTICS, ADVANCEMENT IN TECHNOLOGY IS GRADUALLY TRANSFORMING THE WAY SURGERIES AROUND THE WORLD ARE PERFORMED. IN THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF OUR SERIES ON THE TOPIC JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. BOGGESS (BAH-GISS) AT THE UNC CHAPEL HILL SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, WHO BEGAN WORKING WITH ROBOTS NEARLY A DECADE AGO AND, TODAY, IS CONSIDERED ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPERTS IN ROBOTIC-ASSISTED SURGERY IN ONCOLOGY. HSM

FEBRUARY 17 – OPTING FOR A MINIMALLY INVASIVE APPROACH, DOCTORS HAVE BEEN USING ROBOTS IN SURGERY FOR NEARLY A DECADE. THE DAVINCI ROBOT, MEANWHILE, HAS COME UNDER SCRUTINY BECAUSE OF ASSOCIATED COSTS. IT'S ALSO BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SEVERAL MALPRACTICE LAWSUITS. IN THE CONCLUSION OF OUR IN-DEPTH DISCUSSION ON ROBOTIC-ASSISTED SURGERY, JOSH ZACH DISCUSSES THESE SITUATIONS WITH UNC CHAPEL HILL ONCOLOGIST DR. JOHN BOGGESS (BAH-GISS) A LEADING EXPERT IN THE PRACTICE. HSM

FEBRUARY 17 – THE RECENT SNOWFALL AND COLD WEATHER HAS MANY ITCHING TO HEAD TOWARD THE SKI SLOPES. HOWEVER, THERE'S A COUPLE THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND BEFORE YOU DO. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. ALLSTON STUBBS- WITH WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER- TO GET SOME TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID WINTER SPORTS INJURIES. HSM

FEBRUARY 18 – FOOD AND BEVERAGE COMPANIES COMMITTED TO REMOVE 1.5 TRILLION CALORIES FROM PRODUCTS BY THE END OF 2015. IT'S AN INITIATIVE CALLED THE HEALTHY WEIGHT COMMITMENT, AND REGISTERED DIETICIAN DAVID GROTTO TELLS JOSH ZACH THAT THIS LOFTY GOAL HAS NOT JUST BEEN MET, WELL AHEAD OF THE 2015 DEADLINE, IT'S BEEN SURPASSED MORE THAN FOUR-FOLD! HSM

FEBRUARY 18 – NEW RESEARCH SHOWS THAT LONELINESS POSES A SIGNIFICANT HEALTH RISK FOR OLDER ADULTS. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN HAS MORE. HSM

FEBRUARY 19 – MANY BUSINESSES AND SCHOOLS WERE FORCED TO CLOSE LAST WEEK DUE TO SNOW AND ICE. RED CROSS BLOOD CENTERS AND OFF-SITE BLOOD DRIVES WERE ALSO AFFECTED. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN TALKED TO LEIGH BROCK REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR WITH THE RED CROSS IN GREENSBORO. HSM

FEBRUARY 24 – PARKINSON'S IS A DEGENERATIVE DISEASE, BUT FOR ONE MAN, PARKINSON'S HASN'T STOPPED HIM FROM CONTINUING ONE OF HIS PASSIONS...RACING. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH KURT ROEHRIG (ROAR-RIG)- WHO RACES TRANSAMS IN THE TA1 DIVISION AND DR. HAQ (HOCK)- ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF NEUROLOGY AT WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER. KURT TELLS BRANDON HOW HE IS STILL ABLE TO RACE WITH PARKINSON'S. HSM

FEBRUARY 26 – CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE IS A MAJOR PROBLEM IN THE U-S AND ACROSS THE GLOBE, AFFECTING ROUGHLY ONE IN EVERY THREE PEOPLE. AND NOW, A NEW STUDY IS LOOKING INTO WHETHER AN INVESTIGATIONAL MEDICATION COULD REDUCE THE RISK OF HEART DISEASE BY REDUCING L-D-L, OR BAD CHOLESTEROL. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. ROBERT GIUGLIANO (JEW-LEE-AH-NO)- THE CO-CHAIR OF THE STUDY- TO FIND OUT WHAT L-D-L IS AND HOW IT AFFECTS CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH. HSM

FEBRUARY 27 – ABOUT 20 MILLION AMERICANS PRESENTLY SUFFER FROM GLUTEN INTOLERANCE- AN ADVERSE REACTION TO THE PROTEIN GLUTEN FOUND IN WHEAT AND RELATED GRAIN SPECIES, ACCORDING TO A RECENT STUDY BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. JANET ANGEL- A NUTRITIONAL BIOCHEMIST AND WELLNESS EXPERT- TO FIND OUT SOME EASY STEPS TO TAME GLUTEN SENSITIVITY. HSM

FEBRUARY 28 – NEW NUMBERS FROM STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY FOUR MORE PEOPLE HAVE DIED FROM THE FLU ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA THIS SEASON, BRINGING THE STATE TOTAL TO 81. THIS STRAND OF THE FLU SEEMS TO BE AFFECTING MORE MIDDLE-AGED ADULTS, AND WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON SPOKE WITH CAMERON WOLFE - ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE AT DUKE UNIVERSITY - TO FIGURE OUT WHY THAT IS. HSM

MARCH 4 – PARKINSON'S DISEASE AFFECTS ROUGHLY ONE MILLION AMERICANS AND FOUR MILLION PEOPLE WORLDWIDE. AND, A NEW STUDY IS LOOKING TO FIND A TREATMENT FOR MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT (MCI) IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. ROBERT HAUSER- DIRECTOR OF THE PARKINSON'S DISEASE AND MOVEMENT DISORDERS CENTER- TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STUDY AND M-C-I. HSM

MARCH 4 – WOULD YOU WILLINGLY GET THE FLU FOR \$3,000? THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH IS CURRENTLY RECRUITING FOR A RESEARCH STUDY IN WHICH THEY'LL INJECT THE FLU VIRUS RIGHT UP YOUR NOSE. IN THIS HIGHLY ACTIVE FLU SEASON, JOSH ZACH ASKS DR. MICAH MCCLAIN -- AN INFECTIOUS DISEASES SPECIALIST AT DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER -- IS THE MONEY WORTH THE RISK? HSM

MARCH 5 – FLU VACCINES ARE DESIGNED TO PROTECT AGAINST VIRUS STRAINS THAT EXPERTS PREDICT WILL BE THE MOST COMMON DURING FLU SEASON. HOW WELL THE VACCINE WORKS CAN RANGE FROM SEASON TO SEASON, AND CAN ALSO VARY DEPENDING ON WHO'S BEING VACCINATED. DR. MICAH MCCLAIN -- AN INFECTIOUS DISEASES SPECIALIST AT DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER -- TELLS JOSH ZACH THAT DETERMINING HOW WELL A VACCINE WORKS IS QUITE CHALLENGING. HSM

MARCH 6 – NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL ON WEDNESDAY PRESENTED DUKE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN DURHAM AND THE UNC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN CHAPEL HILL EACH WITH \$50,000 RESEARCH GRANTS THROUGH ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND FOUNDATION. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH MIKE CONDREY AT NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL IN RALEIGH -- AND JAY SCOTT, CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND -- TO LEARN MORE, BEGINNING WITH WHY NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL JOINED FORCES WITH THE FOUNDATION. HSM

MARCH 10 – THIS WEEKEND WE "SPRUNG AHEAD" OUR CLOCKS BY ONE HOUR, AND "LOSING" THAT ONE HOUR OF BEAUTY REST MAY STILL BE AFFECTING YOUR SLEEP PATTERN. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH BRENT

BRANDOW AT PARKWAY SLEEPHEALTH CENTERS IN CARY TO DISCUSS SLEEP DISORDERS, THE FACTS AND MYTHS TO GETTING A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP, AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO WAKE UP REFRESHED AND RECHARGED EACH DAY. HSM

MARCH 12 – THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS COULD CHANGE RULES ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND TRAINING AFTER A SECOND DEATH LINKED TO "CONSCIOUS SEDATION." THE BOARD IS ASKING FOR PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL COMMENT ON CHANGES IN THE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR DENTISTRY AND SEDATION. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH BOARD OPERATIONS OFFICER BOBBY WHITE. HSM

MARCH 13 – MARCH IS NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH, A TIME TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE MOST COMMON TYPE OF KIDNEY CANCER- RENAL CELL CARCINOMA (RCC)- WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR APPROXIMATELY 80 TO 85 PERCENT OF CANCEROUS KIDNEY TUMORS. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. JANICE DUTCHER- A MEDICAL ONCOLOGIST- TO FIND OUT WHAT R-C-C IS AND HOW PREVALENT IT IS. HSM

MARCH 13 – THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA IS HOLDING THEIR THIRD ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS "REAL" SOLUTIONS TO END AMERICA'S CHILDHOOD OBESITY SITUATION. DREW NANNIS, CHIEF MARKETING OFFICER, PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHIER AMERICA, SPOKE WITH BRIAN FREEMAN ABOUT HOW CHILDHOOD OBESITY AFFECTS MORE THAN JUST THE CHILD. HSM

MARCH 17 – SEVEN-YEAR-OLD CANCER SURVIVOR JOSH HARDY BEGAN RECEIVING AN EXPERIMENTAL DRUG LAST FOR A DEADLY INFECTION. CONVENTIONAL TREATMENTS DIDN'T HELP, SO HIS DOCTORS AT ST. JUDE HAD REQUESTED A "COMPASSIONATE USE" APPLICATION TO USE AN EXPERIMENTAL DRUG WHICH HAS YET TO BE APPROVED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. SO FAR THE BOY HAS TOLERATED THE DRUG WELL. BILL LUMAYE TALKED WITH JEFF STIER (STY-ER), DIRECTOR OF RISK ANALYSIS AT THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH, ABOUT THE "COMPASSIONATE USE" REQUEST AND THE USE OF EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS. HSM

MARCH 17 – EVERY EIGHT MINUTES A CHILD GOES TO AN ER FOR MEDICINE POISONING. THAT'S THE STATISTIC WHICH ADVOCATES WANT EVERYONE HELP TO REDUCE. THIS WEEK IS NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK, AND JOSH ZACH TALKS TO KATE CARR, PRESIDENT OF SAFE KIDS WORLDWIDE, ABOUT A NEW REPORT THAT HIGHLIGHTS THE GROWING DANGER OF CHILDREN GETTING INTO MEDICINE FOUND AROUND THE HOME. HSM

MARCH 18 – CONTAGIOUS YAWNING IS A WELL-DOCUMENTED PHENOMENON. AND WHILE PREVIOUS STUDIES HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED, CONTAGIOUS YAWNING REMAINS -- AS OF YET -- LARGELY UNKNOWN. UNTIL NOW ... MAYBE ... DUKE PH.D. -- DR. ELIZABETH CIRULLI (SIH-RULLY) -- HAS AUTHORED A BRAND NEW STUDY THAT'S BEING HAILED AS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT FACTORS INFLUENCING CONTAGIOUS YAWNING TO DATE. JOSH ZACH FOLLOWED THE TRAIL OF YAWNING PEOPLE AND TRACKED DOWN DR. CIRULLI TO DISCUSS THE DATA . HSM

MARCH 18 – IT IS ONE OF THE MOST COMMON DEBATES IN OUR CULTURE: IS THE CHILD WHO CAN'T SIT STILL SUFFERING FROM ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER, OR DOES THAT CHILD SIMPLY NEED MORE STRUCTURE AND DISCIPLINE? AUTHORS OF A NEW BOOK ON ADHD DON'T CLAIM TO HAVE AN ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION, BUT THEY ARE ATTRACTING ATTENTION FOR THEIR SUGGESTION ABOUT WHY SO MANY KIDS ARE DIAGNOSED WITH ADHD. BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ HAVE OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. HSM

MARCH 20 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. NISHA MEHTA ON EYE HEALTH AND PREVENTING BLINDNESS- HSM

MARCH 20 – SOME OF US ARE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO CONTAGIOUS YAWNING THAN OTHERS, AND THE PHENOMENON HAS REMAINED POORLY UNDERSTOOD. THAT'S WHY DR. ELIZABETH CIRULLI (SIR-ILL-EE) AT DUKE AUTHORED THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE STUDY TO DATE ON CONTAGIOUS YAWNING. IT MIGHT SOUND TRIVIAL, BUT SHE TELLS JOSH ZACH THAT IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT ENERGY LEVELS AND SLEEPINESS; RESEARCHERS ARE NOW LOOKING TO SEE IF THE GENETIC INFLUENCES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CONTAGIOUS YAWNING MAY ALSO LEND TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF SERIOUS COGNITIVE DISEASES IN HUMANS. HSM

MARCH 20 – TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF SPRING. LONGER DAYS ARE UPON US, AND HOPEFULLY...WARMER WEATHER. THAT MEANS NOW HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO START FOCUSING ON YOUR HEALTH, AND GETTING ACTIVE. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH JIM MORELLI- A REGISTERED PHARMACIST AND HEALTH AND WELLNESS EXPERT- TO GET SOME GOOD HEALTH TIPS. HSM

MARCH 20 – STRESS ... IT IMPACTS EVERYONE, SOME MORE THAN OTHERS. BUT EVERYBODY HAS TO LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH STRESS, OTHERWISE IT BECOMES A BULLY. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH PAUL HULJICH (HEW-LITCH), AUTHOR OF THE STRESS PANDEMIC, WHO SAYS STRESS SUFFERERS MUST TAKE CONTROL OF STRESS BEFORE IT TAKES CONTROL OF YOU. HSM

MARCH 26 – U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER SAYS THE RISING NUMBER OF HEROIN-RELATED DEATHS AN "URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS." JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DUKE UNIVERSITY'S DR. SCOTT SWARTZWELDER (PHONETIC PRONUNCIATION), CO-AUTHOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER, *BUZZED: THE STRAIGHT FACTS ABOUT THE MOST USED AND ABUSED DRUGS* -- IN WPTF'S 'IN-DEPTH LOOK' AT ONE OF THE MOST ADDICTIVE AND LETHAL DRUGS IN HISTORY. HSM

MARCH 26 – ACCORDING TO THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, NEARLY ONE MILLION NORTH CAROLINIANS HAVE DIABETES AND PRE-DIABETES ... AND THAT'S JUST THE NUMBER OF DIAGNOSED CASES. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DR. MARJORIE CYPRESS AT THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOC. TO DISCUSS THE WHAT PEOPLE CAN AND SHOULD DO TO MONITOR THEIR HEALTH. HSM

MARCH 26 – IT'S THE NUMBER ONE CHRONIC INFECTIOUS DISEASE AMONG CHILDREN AND MOST PARENTS PROBABLY DON'T EVEN KNOW IT....TOOTH DECAY. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DENTIST WARREN BRILL AND PARENTING EDUCATOR AND MOM ROSIE POPE TO FIND OUT HOW MANY CHILDREN IT AFFECTS NATIONALLY AND IN NORTH CAROLINA. HSM

MARCH 27 – THE FIFTH ANNUAL COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS ARE OUT. SO, HOW DOES NORTH CAROLINA STACK UP, ESPECIALLY COMPARED TO THE REST OF THE COUNTRY? BRANDON DICKSON FOUND OUT FROM MARJORIE PALOMA (PUH-LOW-MUH)- WITH THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION. HSM

HO - Housing

IA- International Affairs

JANUARY 10 – FORMER DEFENSE SECRETARY ROBERT GATES' MEMOIR IS GENERATING A LOT OF HEADLINES, AND HOW SAFE ARE THINGS IN RUSSIA IN ADVANCE OF THE OLYMPICS IN A FEW WEEKS? PATRICK JOHNSON TALKED WITH MILITARY CHANNEL'S JOHN GRESHAM ABOUT THESE SUBJECTS AND MORE. IA

MARCH 17 – A NEW POLL SHOWS THAT AMERICANS BELIEVE RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN IS A MUCH STRONGER LEADER THAN PRESIDENT OBAMA. BRIAN FREEMAN LEARNED MORE FROM THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER'S PAUL BEDARD. IA

MARCH 20 – TENSIONS HAVE BEEN INCREASINGLY HEATED IN CRIMEA FOLLOWING A REFERENDUM VOTED ON BY THE RESIDENTS OF CRIMEA, WHERE NEARLY 97% OF VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOT TO LEAVE UKRAINE AND JOIN RUSSIA. WPTF'S BLAKE HODGE HAS DETAILS ON NEW DEVELOPMENTS. IA

NS - National Security

JANUARY 20 – THE DRONE CONTROVERSY BEGAN LAST YEAR WHEN THE PRESIDENT INSINUATED A WEAPONIZED DRONES COULD BE USED AGAINST AN AMERICAN ON U.S. SOIL. RAND PAUL'S FILIBUSTER FOLLOWED, THEN NORTH CAROLINA JUMPED INTO THE FRAY BY ATTEMPTING TO BLOCK DRONES IN THE STATE. JOSH ZACH AND SARAH PRESTON AT THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA REVISIT THOSE ATTEMPTS, AND ALSO DISCUSS A STATE HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING SET FOR TUESDAY / TOMORROW TO FURTHER STUDY DRONE USE. NS

JANUARY 21 – STATE LEGISLATORS JUMPED INTO THE CONTROVERSY OVER DRONE USE LAST YEAR BY ATTEMPTING TO BLOCK THE USE OF UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES IN THE STATE. NOW, A STATE HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING -- SET FOR THIS AFTERNOON -- WILL CONVENE TO FURTHER STUDY DRONES. WHAT WILL BE DISCUSSED? THAT'S NOT YET KNOWN, BUT JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH SARAH PRESTON AT THE ACLU OF NORTH CAROLINA ABOUT HOW DRONES ARE NOW MAKING THEIR MAKING THEIR WAY IN TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE. NS

JANUARY 22 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - JOEL DOBSON ON HIS BOOK "GOLDSBORO'S BROKEN ARROW" - 1961 INCIDENT INVOLVING NUCLEAR WEAPONS – NS

FEBRUARY 24 – WITH AMAZON MAKING PREPARATIONS TO START DELIVERING PACKAGES BY AIR VIA DRONES, THE QUESTION IS ARE DRONES THE NEXT BIG THING? MITCH KOKAI, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION, TALKED WITH STEVE BUCCI (BUCHEE), SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW IN DEFENSE AND HOMELAND SECURITY AT THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION, TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT DRONES. NS

PA – Political Affairs

JANUARY 2 – A NEW CNN POLL SHOWS THAT HILLARY CLINTON WOULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT LEAD OVER ANYBODY THAT THE GOP PUTS UP AGAINST HER, EXCEPT FOR NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR CHRIS CHRISTIE. IS THIS JUST NAME RECOGNITION OR IS THERE SOMETHING TO THE POLL? DEMETRI RAVANOS -- ON OUR SISTER STATION, TALK RADIO 850 WPTF -- POSED QUESTION TO MITCH KOKAI AT THE JOHN LOCK FOUNDATION. PA

JANUARY 3 – WITH THE REVIEWS OF 2013 COMING TO AN END...WHAT DOES 2014 LOOK LIKE FOR POLITICIANS HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA? BRIAN FREEMAN GETS A CRYSTAL BALL PREDICTION FROM SGR TODAY DOT COM'S BARLOW HERGET. PA

JANUARY 6 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-DR. TOM EAMON,PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY ON HIS NEW BOOK "THE MAKING OF A SOUTHERN DEMOCRACY: NORTH CAROLINA POLITICS FROM KERR SCOTT TO PAT MCCRORY - PA

JANUARY 7 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-RAN COBLE OF N.C. CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH-COMMENTS ON NORTH CAROLINA POLTICS - PA

JANUARY 13 – THE CLOCK IS TICKING TOWARD THE MAY PRIMARIES AND BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH WILLIAM PEACE UNIVERSITY POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR DAVID MCLENNAN ABOUT THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT RACE. PA

JANUARY 15 – PRESIDENT OBAMA IS TO GIVE A SPEECH ON THE ECONOMY AT NC STATE THIS AFTERNOON. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE HAS THE DETAILS ON HOW THE PREPARATIONS ARE COMING ALONG AND HOW THEY COULD AFFECT YOU. PA

JANUARY 15 – MULTIPLE GROUPS ARE TAKING AIM AT GOVERNOR MCCRORY'S PLANS TO SCHEDULE THE ELECTION TO REPLACE CONGRESSMAN MEL WATT IN THE STRONGLY DEMOCRATIC 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, IRV JOYNER, A LAW PROFESSOR AT N-C CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW SAYS WHILE THE MCCRORY ADMINISTRATION SAYS DELAYING THE ELECTION DUE TO COST IT WILL ALSO WITH DISENFRANCHISE THE CITIZENS IN THAT DISTRICT. JOYNER SAYS LEGAL OPTIONS ARE BEING CONSIDERED. PA

JANUARY 20 – ON AN UPCOMING EDITION OF OF CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS, LT. GOVERNOR DAN FORREST.. TALKS WITH HOST DON CURTIS ABOUT WHAT'S BEING DONE TO PROMOTE JOB GROWTH. PA

JANUARY 27 – MITT ROMNEY HAS ALREADY PREDICTED THE 2016 REPUBLICAN NOMINEES. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH WASHINGTON EXAMINER'S PAUL BEDARD ABOUT WHO ROMNEY PREDICTED WILL BE RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT AND WHO HE LEFT OFF THE LIST. PA

FEBRUARY 4 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - RAN COBLE OF N.C. CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH - COMMENT ON NORTH CAROLINA POLITICS - PA

FEBRUARY 5 – DEMOCRATIC SENATOR KAY HAGAN, WHO CO-CHAIRS THE CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS IS ANNOUNCING WHAT SHE CALLED "LANDMARK BIPARTISAN LEGISLATION" WITH REPUBLICAN SENATOR LISA MURKOWSKI BENEFITING HUNTERS, ANGLERS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION ENTHUSIASTS SHE SPOKE WITH REPORTERS FROM WASHINGTON. PA

FEBRUARY 7 – CLAY AIKEN IS SEEKING THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR THE SECOND DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL SEAT, CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY RENEE ELMERS... WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON GETS THE

TAKE OF POLITICAL ANALYST FARUK OKCETIN (FAH-ROOK OCK-SEH-TIN) ABOUT THE CLAY'S FORAY INTO POLITICS. PA

FEBRUARY 10 – THERE'S BEEN A MAJOR SHAKE UP IN THE STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. NINE MONTHS AFTER TAKING OVER AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROBERT DEMPSEY HAS MADE A SUDDEN DEPARTURE. WTVB TV'S ALENA ATHENS HAS THE STORY. PA

FEBRUARY 17 – NORTH CAROLINA'S AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER STEVE TROXLER IS TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE ENCOMPASSING FARM LEGISLATION PASSED AND SIGNED BY PRESIDENT OBAMA. HE TALKED WITH RHONDA GARRISON. PA

FEBRUARY 19 – GOVERNOR MCCRORY HAD A SIMPLE SHOPPING TRIP TURN INTO AN ALTERCATION AND AN EMPLOYEE BEING FIRED. WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON GETS THE DETAILS FROM POLITICAL ANALYST DOUG RAYMOND. PA

FEBRUARY 24 – THE GOP IS ALREADY TEASING POTENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL RACE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH WASHINGTON EXAMINER'S PAUL BEDARD TO FIND OUT WHY THE GOP IS CONSIDERING SEVERAL GOVERNORS AND SENATORS. PA

MARCH 6 – WHAT MIGHT WE EXPECT WITH THE 2014 ELECTIONS? DONNA MARTINEZ TAKES A CLOSER LOOK WITH POLLSTER TOM JENSEN WITH RALEIGH'S PUBLIC POLICY POLLING. PA

MARCH 11 – WHO MUCH AND WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW THE ELECTION PROCESS? THAT WAS THE QUESTION POSED BY DON CURTIS TO BOB PHILLIPS OF NORTH CAROLINA COMMON CAUSE ON THE MOST RECENT EDITION OF CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS. PA

MARCH 12 – FORMER RADIO HOST FRANK ROCHE IS RUNNING AGAINST INCUMBENT RENEE ELMERS IN THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY FOR THE SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SEAT... WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON ASKED ROCHE WHY HE'S RUNNING AGAINST ELMERS. PA

MARCH 26 – WITH SEVERAL CANDIDATES SEEKING THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION IN THE U-S SENATE RACE, IT COULD BE DIFFICULT FOR SOME CANDIDATES TO GET ANY TRACTION. POLITICAL ANALYST DOUG RAYMOND TALKS WITH OUR PATRICK JOHNSON ABOUT A CANDIDATE THAT IS POLLING STRONG AND COULD THROW A MONKEY WRENCH INTO THE PRIMARY IN MAY -- HER NAME IS HEATHER GRANT. PA

RE – Religion, Civil Service & Social Climate

JANUARY 13 – MANNERS SEEM TO BE A DYING BREED AT TIMES, ESPECIALLY WITH THE EMERGENCE OF TECHNOLOGY, AND THE GROWING NUMBER OF CELLPHONES. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH THE FOUNDER OF RALEIGH'S HOUSE OF ETIQUETTE, AMANITA (AH-MUH-KNEE-TUH) THOMAS, TO FIND OUT THE PROPER ETIQUETTE REGARDING CELL PHONES. RE

JANUARY 14 - THE DEATH OF FRANKLIN MCCAIN -- ONE OF THE FOUR AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS WHO SAT IN AT A GREENSBORO LUNCH COUNTER DURING THE CIVIL RIGHTS ERA -- PASSED AWAY LAST WEEK... PATRICK JOHNSON TALKS ABOUT THE LIFE AND TIMES OF FRANKLIN MCCAIN WITH THE EDITOR OF THE CAROLINIAN, CASH MICHAELS. RE

JANUARY 17 – ACTION FOR CHILDREN NORTH CAROLINA AND THE COVENANT WITH NORTH CAROLINA'S CHILDREN HAVE MERGED TO FORM NC CHILD. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH ROB THOMPSON- DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION AND NETWORK AT NC CHILD- TO FIND OUT WHY THESE TWO ORGANIZATIONS HAVE MERGED AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES. RE

FEBRUARY 3 – THE NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS TWEETED LAST WEEK THEY ARE 20-THOUSAND UNITS SHORT OF THEIR BLOOD GOALS AFTER THE WINTER WEATHER CANCELED BLOOD DRIVES AND PREVENTED DONORS FROM GETTING OUT TO DONATE. WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON TALKED WITH RED CROSS REGIONAL DIRECTOR BARRY PORTER ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP. RE

FEBRUARY 4 – MORE MINORITIES HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN HEALTH CARE UNDER OBAMACARE, BUT HOW GOOD WILL THEIR COVERAGE BE? DR. MARSHALL CHIN -- DIRECTOR OF THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION'S "FINDING ANSWERS" PROGRAM -- TELLS JOSH ZACH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IS A GOOD START BUT DISPARITIES IN THE DELIVERY AND QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE PERSIST, AND ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN HIGH-QUALITY HEALTH CARE. RE

FEBRUARY 6 – SINGER CLAY AIKEN IS GOING TO RUN FOR THE RENEE ELMERS SEAT, MAKING A LONG RUMORED BID FOR THE SEAT OFFICIAL (ON WEDNESDAY). WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON ASKED POLITICAL ANALYST PERRY WOODS IF CLAY IS A LEGIT CANDIDATE. PA

FEBRUARY 17 – ALL THIS MONTH WE'RE BRINGING YOU STORIES OF NORTH CAROLINA'S BLACK HISTORY. HERE'S GAYLE HURD WITH TODAY'S STORY ABOUT ELIZABETH KECKLEY -- A FORMER SLAVE TURNED PRESIDENTIAL FASHION DESIGNER. RE

FEBRUARY 19 – TREIA (TREE-AH) IS NON-PROFIT GROUP THAT SPECIALIZES IN REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT, FLIPS, REHABS, AND HAS THE MISSION TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT REAL ESTATE INVESTING AND RESTORATION. THEY ALSO WOULD LIKE TO HELP CHURCHES AND THEIR MEMBERS WHO NEED TO HAVE THEIR HOUSES HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE, PLUS OTHER THINGS. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH TREIA'S ---- JIM POSTMA TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR OUTREACH PROGRAM. RE

MARCH 5 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-PAM BECK,GARDENING WRITER-ON SPRING-TIME FLOWERS AND PLANTS AND RELIGIOUS SYMBOLISM- RE

MARCH 5 – OUR SALUTE TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE IN THE NATIONAL GUARD CONTINUES AS BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH AIR NATIONAL GUARD MAJOR BRIAN MAINE. RE

MARCH 10 – WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD CELEBRATING ITS BIRTHDAY, WE CONTINUE OUR SERIES FOCUSING ON THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE SERVING OUR STATE -- BRUCE FERRELL TALKED TO MASTER SGT. ERIN WILBER. RE

MARCH 11 – THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE RALEIGH HALL OF FAME IS QUICKLY APPROACHING. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED ABOUT THE "RALEIGH HALL OF FAME" WITH BARLOW HERGET. RE

MARCH 13 – RECENTLY OFFICIALS AT THE NORTH CAROLINA ZOO IN ASHEBORO HELD IT'S ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BANQUET TO HONOR THOSE WHO DONATE THEIR TIME. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN SPOKE WITH TOY LAMBETH VOLUNTEER SERVICES COORDINATOR ABOUT THE MORE THAN 300 PEOPLE SPENT NEARLY 40,000 HOURS VOLUNTEERING AT THE NORTH CAROLINA ZOO LAST YEAR. RE

MARCH 13 – IT'S TIME TO GIVE, AGAIN, TO HELP SAVE A LIFE. BRIAN FREEMAN SPOKE WITH JIM VOGEL ABOUT THE LATEST APEX BLOOD DRIVE TODAY. RE

MARCH 17 – OUR SERIES RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD THIS MONTH AS BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH SECOND LT. ELIZABETH STIEHM (STEAM) OF CHARLOTTE, WHO COMES FROM A FAMILY TRADITION OF MILITARY SERVICE. RE

MARCH 20 – THE CITY OF DURHAM HELD THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS TO TACKLE THE ISSUE OF POVERTY WEDNESDAY. BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH MAYOR BILL BELL RECENTLY ABOUT WHAT'S BEING DONE TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION. RE

MARCH 20 – THEY EXIST IN ALMOST EVERY OFFICE BUILDING...CUBICLES. LOVE THEM OR HATE THEM, THERE'S ONE THING FOR SURE...THEY ARE HERE TO STAY, FOR NOW. BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ, HAVE OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. RE

MARCH 27 – WINTER AND SPRING ARE STILL DUKING IT OUT, BUT BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, THE OUTDOORS WILL BE BECKONING US TO WALK, HIKE, RIDE A BIKE, AND JOIN A SOFTBALL LEAGUE. BUT AFTER MONTHS HUDDLED INSIDE OUR HOMES BY THE FIREPLACE, ARE WE HEALTHY ENOUGH TO JUMP RIGHT IN WITHOUT HURTING OURSELVES? BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ, HAVE OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. RE

SO – Social Media

JANUARY 2 – ACCORDING TO A NEW REPORT, THE WORLD'S E-WASTE -- DISCARDED SMART PHONES, IPADS, AND TELEVISIONS -- WILL GROW BY 33 PERCENT TO 72 MILLION TONS IN JUST THREE YEARS. DAN ACKERMAN, EDITOR AT CNET, JOINS "CBS THIS MORNING: SATURDAY" WITH MORE ON HOW TO COMBAT THIS TROUBLING TREND. SO

JANUARY 2 – GOOGLE HAS A PRODUCT THAT IS GIVING OTHER COMPANIES A RUN FOR THE MONEY. TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN TALKED TO OUR BRIAN FREEMAN. SO

JANUARY 7 – CAMERAS IN OUR PHONES, CAMERAS IN OUR TABLETS. TAKING PICTURES AND POSTING THEM FOR THE WORLD TO SEE HAS BECOME A QUICK AND EASY PAST-TIME FOR MANY OF US. BUT THE LATEST TREND IN PHOTOS HAS SOME FOLKS TAKING A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE. IT'S THE TOPIC OF BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ WITH OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. SO

JANUARY 8 – WITH THE CONSUMER ELECTRONICS SHOW GOING ON IN LAS VEGAS, EVERYONE IS DROOLING FOR THE LATEST TECH DEVICES. THIS YEAR'S THEME AS GREGG STEBBEN FOUND OUT IS DEVICES YOU BUY CAN SPY ON YOU. HE TALKED WITH BRIAN FREEMAN ABOUT THE NEWEST GADGETS HE FOUND THAT CAN KEEP TRACK OF WHAT YOU EAT, DRINK, AND WHERE YOU SLEEP. SO

JANUARY 9 – WHO DOESN'T GET A CHARGE OUT OF SNAPPING UP A GOOD BARGAIN? WHETHER YOU CUT COUPONS, BID FOR ELECTRONICS ON E-BAY, OR JUST FOLLOW THE GROCERY ADS CLOSELY, BARGAIN-HUNTING CAN TRANSLATE INTO HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS SAVED OVER THE YEAR. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, BARGAIN HUNTERS ARE ALSO THE TARGET OF SCAMMERS. IT'S THE TOPIC OF BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ WITH OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. SO

JANUARY 13 – IT SEEMS EVER SINCE EDWARD SNOWDEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE NSA WAS WATCHING PEOPLE THAT PRIVACY ISSUES HAVE DOUBLED. BILL LUMAYE TALKED WITH KATHERINE ALBRECHT - ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF IEEE TECHNOLOGY & SOCIETY MAGAZINE, ABOUT HIS OWN PRIVACY CONCERNS AND WHETHER HE IS JUSTIFIED IN BEING CAUTIOUS. SO

JANUARY 15 – GOOGLE HAS IT'S FIRST BIG PURCHASE OF THE YEAR. IT BOUGHT NEST, A COMPANY THAT SPECIALIZED IN MANUFACTURING WI-FI ENABLED THERMOSTATS AND SMOKE DETECTORS. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN ABOUT THIS PURCHASE OF GOOGLE'S AND WHY IT WOULD HAVE AN INTEREST IN SMOKE DETECTORS. SO

FEBRUARY 3 – EVERY YEAR COMPANIES PUT A LOT OF MONEY AND EFFORT INTO MAKING THEIR BIGGEST AND BEST COMMERCIALS FOR THE SUPER BOWL. BUT WHICH IS MORE MEMORABLE? THE GAME OR THE COMMERCIALS? DEMITRI RAVANOS TALKS WITH DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY ROB POTTER ABOUT THIS YEAR'S SUPER BOWL COMMERCIALS AND WHAT MESSAGES THEY SEND OUT. SO

FEBRUARY 18 – WE'RE ALL GUILTY OF AVOIDING THINGS WE JUST DON'T WANT TO DO, WHETHER IT'S SHOVELING THE SNOW, GATHERING OUR TAX RECORDS, OR STARTING INTO THAT GIANT PROJECT FOR THE BOSS. BUT THERE ARE PAINLESS WAYS TO TRANSFORM OURSELVES FROM A PROCRASTINATOR TO A SELF-STARTER. BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ WITH OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. SO

FEBRUARY 19 – CELL PHONE THEFT IS A MAJOR PROBLEM RIGHT NOW AND A GROUP OF SENATORS WANT A BILL TO FIGHT BACK. THEY WANT REMOTE DEACTIVATION SYSTEMS INSTALLED ON ALL MOBILE DEVICES WHICH WOULD TURN OFF THE DEVICE IF STOLEN. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN ON THIS "KILL SWITCH" IDEA AND IF IT MAKES SENSE FOR CONGRESS TO PASS A LIKE THIS. SO

FEBRUARY 19 – MEMBERS OF THE WAKE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD ARE KEEPING TIGHT LIPPED ABOUT A POLICE INVESTIGATION INVOLVING NUDE PHOTOS OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA. WTVD TV'S FRED SHROPSHIRE REPORTS. SO

FEBRUARY 24 – THE INTERNET IS AN AMAZING PLACE BUT, JUST LIKE THE REAL WORLD THE INTERNET CAN HAVE SHADY NEIGHBORHOODS AND DANGEROUS BACK ALLEYS. THAT'S WHY GOOGLE LAUNCHED THEIR 'SAFER INTERNET DAY' INITIATIVE -- OBSERVED EARLIER THIS MONTH -- TO HELP KEEP US ON THE PAVED, LIGHTED ROADS OF THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY. JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH GOOGLE'S JAMIE HILL TO FIND OUT WHAT THE SEARCH ENGINE IS SUGGESTING IN ORDER TO HAVE A SAFE ONLINE EXPERIENCE. SO

FEBRUARY 24 – FACEBOOK PAID A MINT FOR THE WHATSAPP, BUT IS IT WORTH IT? AND WHAT IS THIS APP ALL ABOUT, AND WHO IS USING IT? ALL QUESTIONS PATRICK JOHNSON HAS FOR C-NET SENIOR EDITOR AND THE HOST OF THE C-NET UPDATE -- BRIDGET CAREY. SO

FEBRUARY 26 – THE MOBILE WORLD CONGRESS IS IN , BARCELONA SPAIN THIS YEAR SHOWING OFF THE LATEST AND HOTTEST GADGETS INCLUDING NEW PHONES! BRIAN FREEMAN FINDS OUT FROM TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN ABOUT THE NEWEST SMARTPHONES BEING UNVEILED. SO

MARCH 12 – IF YOU HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN TEXTING OR DRIVING, WHICH WOULD YOU CHOOSE? MOST OF US WOULD CHOOSE DRIVING, BUT A RECENT REPORT SAYS OTHERWISE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN ABOUT A RECENT STUDY ON THE INCREASE OF TECHNOLOGY AND TAKING THE BUS TO WORK. SO

MARCH 13 – IT'S NO SECRET THAT EVERYONE FROM EMPLOYERS TO FAMILY MEMBERS ARE CHECKING OUT EVERY BLOG, EVERY PHOTO, EVERY SNARKY COMMENT WE POST ONLINE. BUT AT LEAST ONE STATE HAS ADOPTED A NEW LAW DESIGNED TO PROTECT MINORS FROM BEING DOGGED FOREVER BY THE UNWISE THINGS THEY POSTED AS TEENAGERS. BRIAN FREEMAN AND DONNA MARTINEZ HAVE OUR EYE ON LIFESTYLE. SO

MARCH 17 – LAST MONTH GOOGLE SHORT-LISTED RALEIGH AND CHARLOTTE FOR ITS HIGH SPEED GOOGLE FIBER THAT THEY MIGHT INSTALL NEXT YEAR IF THE CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT. ENTER RST FIBER ... A CLEVELAND COUNTY TELECOM COMPANY ... WHO ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK THAT THEY JUST ACTIVATED THEIR 100-GIGABIT UNDERGROUND FIBER NETWORK ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA. TO UNDERSTAND THE SCOPE OF WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE STATE, JOSH ZACH SPOKE WITH DAN LIMERICK -- THE CEO AND CO-FOUNDER OF RST FIBER. SO

MARCH 18 – RST FIBER -- A TELECOM COMPANY BASED IN CLEVELAND COUNTY -- ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK THEY HAD COMPLETED AND ACTIVATED THEIR UNDERGROUND, 100-GIGABIT, HIGH-SPEED FIBER NETWORK ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA. LAST MONTH, GOOGLE SHORT-LISTED RALEIGH AND CHARLOTTE FOR ITS HIGH SPEED GOOGLE FIBER -- WHICH THEY MIGHT INSTALL NEXT YEAR IF THE CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT. JOSH ZACH ASKED DAN LIMERICK -- CEO AND CO-FOUNDER OF RST FIBER -- IF WE SHOULD WE STILL BE EXCITED ABOUT GOOGLE FIBER? SO

MARCH 26 – KICKSTARTER, A FUNDING SITE FOR PROJECTS MADE BY PEOPLE LIKE YOU, HAS HELPED LAUNCH THOUSANDS OF PROJECTS OF ART, MUSIC, FILM AND MORE. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH TREND AND TECH GURU GREGG STEBBEN ABOUT A LOCAL RALEIGH BUSINESS THAT HAS A KICKSTARTER PROJECT AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO START YOUR OWN. SO

SP – Sports/Games/Races

JANUARY 1 – WE HAVE ALL HEARD ABOUT BLACK FRIDAY, BUT WHAT ABOUT BLACK MONDAY. THAT IS THE DAY IN THE NFL AFTER THE REGULAR SEASON WHERE COACHES ARE GENERALLY FIRED. DEMETRI RAVANOS IN FOR DOUG KELLETT OF THE MORNING DRIVE TALKED WITH AARON NAGLER FROM BLEACHER REPORT.COM. SP

JANUARY 1 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW-TONY RIGGSBEE REVIEWS 2013 SPORTS YEAR - SP

JANUARY 2 – ONE OF THE BIGGEST SPORTS FIGURES IN AMERICA IS BRAGGING ABOUT THE TOWN OF CLAYTON ... ON NATIONAL TV! JOSH ZACH TALKED TO CLAYTON SPOKESPERSON STACY BEARD TO FIND OUT WHY FOX ANALYST -- FORMER PITTSBURGH STEELERS QUARTERBACK -- TERRY BRADSHAW IS SINGING CLAYTON'S PRAISES. SP

JANUARY 10 – ACC PLAY IS NOW IN FULL GEAR FOR BASKETBALL, AND THE UNC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM HAS A DAUNTING JANUARY SCHEDULE AHEAD OF THEM. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH UNC ASSISTANT COACH BILLY LEE TO GET HIS THOUGHTS ON THE UPCOMING SCHEDULE. SP

JANUARY 16 – THE WOLFPACK WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ARE BACK IN THE TOP 25 AND TONIGHT THEY TAKE ON FLORIDA STATE HERE IN RALEIGH... N-C STATE COACH WES MOORE TALKED ABOUT THE GAME AND THE STATE OF THE GAME WITH WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON. SP

JANUARY 17 – THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL IS ONCE AGAIN DEFENDING THEIR ACADEMICS SURROUNDING STUDENT-ATHLETES. ON THURSDAY, CHANCELLOR CAROL FOLT SENT OUT AN E-MAIL TO THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY ADDRESSING REPORTS ABOUT STUDENT LITERACY. WPTF'S SCOTT BRIGGAMAN GETS MORE DAVID GLENN OF ACCSPORTS.COM AND THE ACC SPORTS JOURNAL. SP

JANUARY 23 – COMING UP IN A FEW WEEKS THE RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IS HOSTING AN EVENING OF CHAMPIONS WHICH SALUTES OUR LOCAL SPORTS STARS. BRIAN FREEMAN TALKED WITH CHAMBER PRESIDENT HARVEY SCHMITT ABOUT WHAT WILL TAKE PLACE THAT NIGHT AND WHO WILL BE THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER WILL BE. SP

JANUARY 23 - TOM KEARNEY SHOW - BILL LAW AND TONY RIGGSBEE TALK ABOUT THE ANNUAL HOT STOVE LEAGUE BANQUET – SP

JANUARY 24 – THE COLD WEATHER AND RECENT SNOWFALL HAS MANY ITCHING TO HEAD TOWARD THE SKI SLOPES. HOWEVER, THERE'S A COUPLE THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND BEFORE YOU DO. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH DR. ALLSTON STUBBS- WITH WAKE FOREST BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER- TO GET SOME TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID WINTER SPORTS INJURIES. SP

JANUARY 27 – SINCE OPEN ENROLLMENT ON THE NEW AFFORDABLE CARE ACT BEGAN IN OCTOBER, ABOUT 3 MILLION HAVE ENROLLED IN PRIVATE INSURANCE PLANS. INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO CARRY COVERAGE BY THE END OF MARCH, 2014 OR POTENTIALLY PAY A PENALTY. BUT SKIP WOODY -- FROM A TRIANGLE BENEFITS CONSULTING FIRM, HILL, CHESSON & WOODY -- TELLS JOSH ZACH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DELAYED THE MANDATE THAT REQUIRES EMPLOYERS OFFER INSURANCE TO THEIR EMPLOYEES UNTIL JANUARY, 2015. SP

FEBRUARY 10 – THE WINTER OLYMPICS ARE OFFICIALLY UPON US, AND WITH THE SPREAD OF FLU IN THE U-S, THERE'S TALK THAT AMERICAN ATHLETES MAY TRY TO FIND ANOTHER WAY OF GREETING THAN SHAKING HANDS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH AMANITA THOMAS (AH-MUH-KNEE-TUH)- PROTOCOL OFFICER WITH RALEIGH'S HOUSE OF ETIQUETTE- TO FIND OUT HOW ATHLETES CAN SHOW GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP WITHOUT SPREADING ILLNESS. SP

FEBRUARY 10 – MISSOURI ALL-AMERICAN MICHAEL SAM SAYS HE IS GAY, AND THE DEFENSIVE END COULD BECOME THE FIRST OPENLY HOMOSEXUAL PLAYER IN THE NFL. CBS'S SUSAN MCGINNIS HAS DETAILS. SP

FEBRUARY 10 – WE'RE LEARNED LAST WEEK THAT THE RESEARCH TRIANGLE FOUNDATION PURCHASED JUST OVER 100 ACRES AT THE PARK CENTER CENTER SITE FOR REDEVELOPMENT. NOW, MORE ON WHAT WE MIGHT BE SEEING -- AND WHEN -- AS BRUCE FERRELL TALKED WITH FOUNDATION'S BOB GEOLAS. SP

FEBRUARY 17 – THE 2014 NASCAR SEASON IS ALMOST UPON US. THE DAYTONA 500 WILL PUT THE SEASON IN GEAR THIS SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 23RD). WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH NASCAR DRIVER JEFF GORDON TO GET HIS THOUGHTS ON THE 2013 SEASON AND THE CHALLENGES WITH THE SPRINT CUP SERIES POINT SYSTEM. SP

FEBRUARY 26 – MARTINSVILLE TRACK PRESIDENT CLAY CAMPBELL IS GEARING UP FOR THE STP 500 WHICH WILL BE HELD IN MARTINSVILLE ON MARCH 30TH. BUT, IN HIS FREE TIME HE IS ALSO A DRIVER IN THE A-R-C-A. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH CLAY AFTER HE PLACED THIRD IN THE A-R-C-A'S LUCAS OIL 200 TO GET HIS THOUGHTS ON THAT RACE AS WELL AS A VERY INTERESTING CELEBRATION AFTER THE CONTEST. SP

FEBRUARY 26 – THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS ARE CELEBRATING THEIR 88TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR, REMARKABLY ENOUGH. AND TO CELEBRATE, THE GLOBETROTTERS ARE EMBARKING ON A WORLD-WIDE "FANS RULE" TOUR. WPTF'S BRANDON DICKSON FOUND OUT MORE ABOUT THE TOUR, WHICH IS ON ITS WAY TO NORTH CAROLINA, AND HOW TO GET FREE TICKETS TO IT FROM THE GLOBETROTTERS "CHEESE" CHISHOLM (CHI-ZUM). SP

FEBRUARY 27 – THEY ARE KNOWN AROUND THE GLOBE AND THEY WILL BE IN RALEIGH THIS WEEKEND...THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS ARE TAKING THEIR 2014 "FANS RULE" WORLD TOUR TO PNC ARENA AT 3PM ON SUNDAY. BRANDON DICKSON TALKED WITH THE GLOBETROTTERS' BUCKETS BLAKES TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT WE WILL SEE ON THIS TOUR. SP

FEBRUARY 28 – TOMORROW DUKE FOOTBALL WILL HOLD THEIR ANNUAL SPRING GAME AT WALLACE WADE STADIUM... WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON TALKED WITH BLUE DEVIL COACH DAVID CUTCLIFFE ABOUT THE GAME. SP

MARCH 18 – NC CENTRAL IS ONE OF FOUR TRIANGLE TEAMS IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT. IT'S BEEN A QUICK ASCENSION FOR THE DURHAM-BASED H-B-C-U SINCE JOINING D-I ATHLETICS... JOURNALIST CASH MICHAELS TALKED WITH WPTF'S PATRICK JOHNSON ABOUT THE SUCCESS OF EAGLES BASKETBALL AND THE SCHOOL AS A WHOLE. SP

WPTF also airs public affairs programming produced by stategovernmentradio.com.

Sunday - Carolina Newsmakers airs from 7 to 8 a.m. and People in Politics airs from 9 to 10 a.m.

Carolina Newsmakers and People in Politics (All PA)

People in Politics and Carolina Newsmakers are both 60-minute programs.

PA BLOCK FOR 01-05-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

AS 2014 BEGINS, A SLATE OF CHANGES IN NORTH CAROLINA'S ELECTION LAW TAKE EFFECT. WHILE THE REQUIREMENT TO SHOW A PHOTO I.D. TO VOTE – WHICH DOESN'T BEGIN UNTIL 2016 – HAS GOTTEN ALL THE MEDIA ATTENTION, THERE ARE MANY OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE LAW. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS ABOUT THE CHANGES WITH ONE OF THE KEY LEGISLATORS WHO SHEPHERDED THE LAW THROUGH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, REP. DAVID LEWIS, CHAIRMAN OF THE N.C. HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE. MARTINEZ AND LEWIS DISCUSS CHANGES IN CAMPAIGN DONATION LIMITS, THE ORDER OF CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT, THE ELIMINATION OF PUBLIC FINANCING FOR JUDICIAL CAMPAIGNS, AND MORE. THEN MARTINEZ PROVIDES DETAILS OF A NEW JOB FOR FORMER 2ND DISTRICT CONGRESSMAN BOB ETHERIDGE, AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING THAT THE MCCRORY ADMINISTRATION IMPROPERLY FIRED A STATE ALE AGENT, AND THE REASON THAT NATIONAL DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS ARE FOCUSING SO INTENTLY ON SEN. KAY HAGAN'S RE-ELECTION BID, AND FINALLY, MARTINEZ TALKS WITH DEMOCRAT JASON THIGPEN ABOUT HIS QUEST FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR THE 3RD DISTRICT SEAT IN THE CONGRESS. THIGPEN IS A FORMER REPUBLICAN WHO LAST YEAR SWITCHED PARTIES AND IS NOW SEEKING TO UNSEAT INCUMBENT REPUBLICAN WALTER JONES.

****ISSUES COVERED: CHANGES IN THE STATE'S ELECTION LAW; PHOTO I.D.; CAMPAIGN DONATION LIMITS; ORDER OF CANDIDATE LISTINGS ON BALLOTS; ELIMINATION OF PUBLIC FINANCING FOR JUDICIAL CAMPAIGNS.

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH RAN COBLE", EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NC CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

****ISSUES COVERED: 2014 ELECTIONS; U.S. SENATE SEAT CURRENTLY HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; POLITICAL PARTIES; "TEA PARTY" INVOLVEMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA; NC INDEPENDENT VOTERS; UNAFFILIATED VOTERS VOTING IN THE STATE MAY PRIMARY; ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN N.C.; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR THE STATE; AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; PROPOSED STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS MAKING IT TO THE BALLOT IN 2014; CHANGES TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE; UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES; 2014 SHORT SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; PAY RAISES FOR TEACHERS IN N.C.; OFFSHORE DRILLING; HYDRAULIC FRACTURING; CHANGES TO THE STATE TAX CODE; STATE TAX RATE; NC SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE; CHANGES TO MEDICAID LAWS****

PA BLOCK FOR 01-12-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

THIS WEEK CONGRESSMAN MIKE MCINTYRE CALLED IT QUILTS, ANNOUNCING HE WILL NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION TO A 10TH TERM SERVING NORTH CAROLINA'S 7TH DISTRICT. THE NEWS ABOUT THE DEMOCRAT HAS FUNDAMENTALLY SHAKEN UP THE RACE FOR THE SEAT THAT SAW ONE OF THE CLOSEST RACES IN THE COUNTRY IN 2012. MCINTYRE BEAT REPUBLICAN DAVID ROUZER BY JUST 650 VOTES. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ IS JOINED BY CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON TO DISCUSS WHAT MCINTYRE'S DECISION MEANS TO THE RACE. THEY ALSO DISCUSS THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL IN OTHER RACES FOR CONGRESS AND NORTH CAROLINA'S U.S. SENATE SEAT THAT'S NOW HELD BY DEMOCRAT KAY HAGAN. THEN WE TURN TO CHANGES IN NORTH CAROLINA'S VOTER REGISTRATION STATISTICS. BOB HALL OF DEMOCRACY NORTH CAROLINA PROVIDES THE NEWS FROM HIS GROUP'S ANALYSIS, WHICH SHOWS DROPS FOR DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS, AND A SURGE IN THOSE REGISTERING AS UNAFFILIATED. THEN WE HEAR CONCERNS ABOUT THE STATE'S PENSION/RETIREMENT FUND FROM THE STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA. SEANC DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS ARDIS WATKINS EXPLAINS TO MARTINEZ WHY THE GROUP HAS HIRED A SPECIALIST

IN RETIREMENT FORENSICS TO LOOK AT HOW THE \$80 BILLION-PLUS FUNDS ARE BEING INVESTED, THE FEES INVOLVED, AND MORE. THE GROUP HOPES TO PROVIDE THE RESULTS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHEN LAWMAKERS RECONVENE IN RALEIGH IN MAY. WATKINS ALSO DISCUSSES SEANC'S HOPES THAT LEGISLATORS PROVIDE STATE EMPLOYEES WITH A PAY RAISE THIS YEAR.

****ISSUES COVERED: CONGRESSMAN MIKE MCINTYRE TO NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION TO THE U.S. CONGRESS; N.C. 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY; 2014 ELECTIONS; N.C. 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT RACE; N.C. 6TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT NOMINATIONS; N.C. U.S. SENATE RACE FOR THE SEAT HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; NATIONAL PARTY SUPPORT FOR SENATOR KAY HAGAN; ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN NORTH CAROLINA; STATE TAX REFORM; JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION; STATE PENSION AND RETIREMENT FUND; STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM; OVERSIGHT OF THE INVESTMENTS OF THE PENSION AND RETIREMENT FUNDS; FISCAL CONCERNS AND POLITICAL CONCERNS OVER THE INVESTMENT OF THE \$80 BILLION DOLLAR FUNDS BEING INVESTED; SEANC AND WELFARE OF STATE EMPLOYEES; STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH CONGRESSMAN GEORGE HOLDING FROM THE STATE'S 13TH DISTRICT"

****ISSUES COVERED: DIVISIVENESS IN U.S. CONGRESS AND WITH POLITICAL PARTIES; INTEREST RATES; 2014 ELECTIONS' EFFECT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNMENT; FEDERAL AND STATE REVENUE; FEDERAL TAX CODE AND FEDERAL TAX REFORM; TAKING AWAY TAX BREAKS AND LOOPHOLES; IRS SCANDAL; FEDERAL DEFICIT; GOVERNMENT REGULATION INHIBITING ECONOMIC GROWTH; AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT; THE "OBAMACARE" ROLLOUT; THE COST OF HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH CARE INSURANCE; FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BAILOUT OF INSURANCE COMPANIES; HEALTH CARE COMPANIES DISCLOSURES; BI-PARTISANSHIP IN THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE; THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE; INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW; PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, AND TRADEMARKS; PATENT LITIGATION; IMMIGRATION; PROVISIONS FOR AMNESTY; TORT REFORM; FRIVOLOUS MALPRACTICE LAWSUITS****

PA BLOCK FOR 01-19-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

A VETERAN DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL STRATEGIST PREDICTS THE 2014 ELECTION SEASON WILL BE A WILD ONE IN NORTH CAROLINA. BRAD CRONE LAID OUT THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE FOR DON CURTIS ON A RECENT ADDITION OF CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS. CRONE TALKS ABOUT CHALLENGES FACING STATE DEMOCRATS AND WHY VOTERS NOT AFFILIATED WITH DEMOCRATS OR REPUBLICANS WILL HOLD SWAY. THEN WE TURN TO PRESIDENT OBAMA'S CHALLENGE IN 2014 AS HE TRIES TO HELP DEMOCRATS UP FOR RE-ELECTION – INCLUDING N.C. SEN. KAY HAGAN. AHEAD OF THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO OUR STATE ON WEDNESDAY, NC STATE POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR ANDY TAYLOR OFFERS PERSPECTIVE. NEXT IS THE VERY LATEST "ON THE TRAIL" AS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TALKS WITH RICK HENDERSON OF CAROLINA JOURNAL ABOUT HOW THE SENATE RACE IS SHAPING UP NOW THAT KAY HAGAN HAS DRAWN A DEMOCRATIC PARTY PRIMARY CHALLENGER AS WELL AS ANOTHER REPUBLICAN. MARTINEZ AND HENDERSON ALSO TALK ABOUT THE TIGHTENING GOP PRIMARY RACE IN THE 7TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL RACE BETWEEN NEW HANOVER COUNTY COMMISSIONER WOODY WHITE AND FORMER STATE SEN. DAVID ROUZER. FORMER STATE GOP CHAIRMAN TOM FETZER IS NOW SUPPORTING WHITE EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ROUZER WHO CAME WITHIN 650 VOTES OF DEFEATING DEMOCRAT MIKE MCINTYRE IN 2012. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY MARTINEZ' CONVERSATION WITH REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIRMAN CLAUDE POPE ABOUT THE PARTY'S 2014 PLANS. POPE COMMENTS ON THE U.S. SENATE RACE AND THE ONGOING "MORAL MONDAY" PROTESTS AGAINST REPUBLICANS.

****ISSUES COVERED: 2014 ELECTIONS; CAMPAIGN SPENDING; THE RACE FOR THE US SENATE SEAT CURRENTLY HELD BY KAY HAGAN; POLITICAL PARTIES; VOTER REGISTRATION; UNAFFILIATED VOTERS; OBAMA'S VISIT TO NORTH CAROLINA ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15TH; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT; INCOME EQUALITY; THE ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY; JOB CREATION; GOP PRIMARY RACE IN THE STATE'S 7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; "MORAL MONDAY" PROTESTS; INTERVIEW WITH STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY CHAIRMAN, CLAUDE POPE.

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH BRAD CRONE", PRESIDENT OF CAMPAIGN CONNECTIONS

****ISSUES COVERED: CAMPAIGN SPENDING; 2014 NC U.S. SENATE RACE; POLITICAL PARTIES; OBAMACARE'S EFFECT ON THE 2014 ELECTIONS; VOTING TRENDS; UNAFFILIATED VOTERS; VOTER REGISTRATION; NC DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADERSHIP; MIKE MCINTYRE TO NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION; HEALTH CARE INSURANCE; MINIMAL COVERAGE UNDER THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; REDISTRICTING; NC STATE LEGISLATURE; USE OF THE GOVERNOR'S VETO; NC SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CANDIDATES****
PA BLOCK FOR 01-26-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

AS HE BEGINS HIS SECOND YEAR IN OFFICE, GOV. PAT MCCRORY STEPPED BEFORE THE MICROPHONES AND CAMERAS TO TALK ABOUT HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND 2014 PRIORITIES. YOU'LL HEAR HIS COMMENTS ON ENERGY, TRANSPORTATION, AND EDUCATION, AS WELL THE 2014 FOCUS FOR HIS WIFE, FIRST LADY ANN MCCRORY. IN THIS WEEK'S "ON THE TRAIL" SEGMENT, CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ THAT AMERICAN IDOL RUNNER-UP AND RALEIGH NATIVE CLAY AIKEN LOOKS CLOSER TO A RUN FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY NOMINATION IN THE 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT. THE TWO DISCUSS THE GROWING NUMBER OF CANDIDATES IN THE RACE, THE ROLE OF CELEBRITY IN POLITICS, AND HOW AIKEN'S POTENTIAL ENTRY COULD THWART THE DEMOCRATS' EFFORTS TO ELEVATE VETERAN BUSINESS EXPERT AND FORMER PERDUE AIDE KEITH CRISCO, WHO'S ALSO SEEKING THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION TO CHALLENGE REPUBLICAN INCUMBENT RENEE ELLMERS. THE DISCUSSION CONTINUES WITH NEWS ABOUT THE LATEST ENTRANTS INTO THE U.S. SENATE RACE AND THE WAR OF WORDS ALREADY UNDERWAY IN A KEY LEGISLATIVE RACE, WHERE STATE SENATOR BOB RUCHO HAS CALLED HIS REPUBLICAN PRIMARY OPPONENT A LIBERAL DEMOCRAT. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY MARTINEZ'S IN-DEPTH CONVERSATION WITH NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN RANDY VOLLER, WHO TELLS MARTINEZ ABOUT THE PARTY'S PLANS FOR 2014, WHY HE BELIEVES DEMOCRATS WILL PICK UP SEATS IN THE LEGISLATURE IN THE FALL, WHY SEN. KAY HAGAN CAN WIN RE-ELECTION, AND WHY HE DOESN'T MIND IT WHEN THE STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY SAYS NAACP CHAIRMAN REV. WILLIAM BARBER IS THE DEFACTO HEAD OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

****ISSUES COVERED: ENERGY PRODUCTION; TEACHER PAY RAISES; TRANSPORTATION; NC DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES FOR THE 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS; SPENDING FOR UPCOMING NC POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS; AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND STATE LEGISLATIVE RACES; U.S. CONGRESSMAN MIKE MCINTYRE IS PLANNING TO RETIRE AT THE END OF HIS CONGRESSIONAL TERM; "MORAL MONDAY" MOVEMENT; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS; PUBLIC EDUCATION****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH LT. GOVERNOR DAN FORREST"

****ISSUES COVERED: ROLE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN NORTH CAROLINA; PRESIDENT OF THE NC SENATE; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; NC STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; NC BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES; "PIEDMONT CRESCENT"; NC STATE ECONOMY; RURAL AND URBAN AREAS OF NORTH CAROLINA; PUBLIC EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION IN N.C.; NC COUNTIES; NC GEOGRAPHY; NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM; CHANGING THE STATE TAX CODE; STATE TAX REFORM; UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE; RESEARCH AT NC STATE UNIVERSITY; BIOTECH RESEARCH; STATE INFRASTRUCTURE; STATE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND; TRANSPORTATION; REPAIRING THE STATE'S BRIDGES; THE STATE'S PORTS AND ACCESS TO THEM; STATE EXPORTS; BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY TO THE STATE'S RURAL AREA; THE STATE'S ENERGY NEEDS****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-02-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

THE MONEY IS POURING IN TO SEN. KAY HAGAN'S RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN. MATT BALES OF THE N.C. FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ THE DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT STARTED THE YEAR WITH \$6 MILLION ON HAND. BALES DELVES INTO WHERE THE MONEY IS COMING FROM, EXPLAINS WHY CONTESTS IN TWO NORTH CAROLINA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS COULD IMPACT THE SENATE RACE, AND

LOOKS AT WHAT HE DESCRIBES AS THE MOST ENTERTAINING RACE OF THE YEAR. THEN WE HEAR FROM SEN. HAGAN AS SHE DISCUSSES HER SUPPORT FOR THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND WHY SHE THINKS ADS BEING RUN AGAINST HER BY OUTSIDE GROUPS ARE UNFAIR. NEXT, MARTINEZ PROVIDES DETAILS ON THE LATEST COURT RULING THAT MEANS THE STATE'S 2014 ELECTIONS WILL NOT BE DELAYED AS THE REDRAWN MAPS ARE SCRUTINIZED. DEMOCRATS AND THEIR ALLIES HAVE ARGUED THE PRIMARY SHOULD BE DELAYED UNTIL A RULING IS REACHED. THEN WE TURN TO COMMENTS FROM GOV. PAT MCCRORY ABOUT THE DECISION BY THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE NOT TO SEEK TO BE THE HOST CITY FOR THE 2016 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY MARTINEZ'S CONVERSATION WITH CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON. IN THIS WEEK'S "ON THE TRAIL" SEGMENT, THE TWO DISCUSS THE TRAFFIC JAM THAT IS THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY FIELD FOR THE 6TH DISTRICT SEAT IN CONGRESS, FUNDRAISING TOTALS IN A COURT OF APPEALS RACE, AND WHY FIVE REPUBLICAN N.C. SENATORS HAVE BEEN DEEMED VULNERABLE TO DEFEAT BY PUBLIC POLICY POLLING. AND FINALLY, WE TURN TO PRESIDENT OBAMA'S 2014 AGENDA AS LAID OUT IN THE RECENT STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS. YOU'LL HEAR THE PRESIDENT CHALLENGE REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS TO WORK WITH HIM OR SIT ON THE SIDELINES WHILE HE ADVANCES HIS PROGRAM BY EXECUTIVE ORDER.

ISSUES COVERED: CAMPAIGN SPENDING AND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS; 2014 NC SENATE RACE; NC FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION; SENATOR KAY HAGAN'S RE-ELECTION BID; PAC'S; DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PARTY FUNDRAISING; AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; CHARLOTTE WILL NOT SEEK TO BE THE HOST CITY TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION; NC TRAVEL AND TOURISM; STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT; POLLING; CANDIDATES AND FUNDRAISING FOR THE 6TH DISTRICT SEAT FOR U.S. CONGRESS FROM NORTH CAROLINA; HOWARD COBLE TO NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION; OBAMA'S JOB APPROVAL RATING; PRESIDENT OBAMA'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT; HEALTH CARE; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; THE NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH JIM GARDNER", FORMER LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, AND NC REPRESENTATIVE TO THE U.S. CONGRESS

****ISSUES COVERED: NC ALCOHOLIC AND BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION; ABC IN NORTH CAROLINA; UNDERAGE DRINKING; DRINKING ON NC COLLEGE CAMPUSES; ALCOHOL-RELATED TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS; PARENTING; ALCOHOLISM AND PREVENTION****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-09-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

HE'S MADE IT OFFICIAL VIA A WEB VIDEO. AMERICAN IDOL STAR CLAY AIKEN SAYS HE WILL SEEK THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR THE 2ND DISTRICT SEAT IN CONGRESS – THE SEAT NOW HELD BY REPUBLICAN RENEE ELLMERS. YOU'LL HEAR AIKEN TALK ABOUT HIS FORAY INTO POLITICS AND WHY HE BELIEVES ELLMERS SHOULD BE REPLACED. MEANTIME, ANOTHER DEMOCRAT MAY AS WELL BE IN THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR. YOU'LL HEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL ROY COOPER LAMENT REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP OF NORTH CAROLINA AND ASK NORTH CAROLINIANS TO HELP TAKE THE STATE BACK. HIS COMMENTS COME IN A VIDEO THAT ALL BUT ASKS PEOPLE TO VOTE FOR HIM FOR GOVERNOR. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ GETS REACTION TO BOTH AIKEN AND COOPER FROM DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL CONSULTANT THOMAS MILLS, WHO SAYS STATE DEMOCRATS ARE LOOKING AT A POTENTIAL GENERATION CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE PARTY. AIKEN'S CANDIDACY IS ALREADY DRAWING SCRUTINY FROM NATIONAL WEBSITES. IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF "ON THE TRAIL," CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON TELLS MARTINEZ ABOUT A TWEET AIKEN MADE DURING THE 2012 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION THAT MOCKS THE GOP FOR FAILING TO ATTRACT MORE AFRICAN-AMERICANS. THE TWO ALSO DISCUSS THE LATEST ENDORSEMENTS IN THE U.S. SENATE RACE AND TWO KEY CONGRESSIONAL RACES, AS WELL AS FUNDRAISING TOTALS FOR SOME OF THE CANDIDATES – INCLUDING N.C. SENATE LEADER PHIL BERGER, REPUBLICAN OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY.

****ISSUES COVERED: POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTIES; 2ND DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL SEAT FROM NORTH CAROLINA; DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN PARTIES IN N.C.; POLITICAL FUNDRAISING; 2014 ELECTIONS; U.S. SENATE RACE FOR THE SEAT HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN|****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH LEW EBERT", PRESIDENT, NORTH CAROLINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

****ISSUES COVERED: BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY; MAKING NORTH CAROLINA VIABLE FOR BUSINESS; ECONOMY AND ECONOMIC GROWTH; EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT; JOB CREATION; NC'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RANKING 4TH HIGHEST IN THE COUNTRY; WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATE; OUTSOURCING; HIGH-SKILLED JOBS; MANUFACTURING; HI-TECH JOBS; NORTH CAROLINA JOB GROWTH; TRANSPORTATION; STATE AND BUSINESS TAXES; PUBLIC EDUCATION; NC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK; RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT; THE RECESSION AND FUTURE GROWTH OF THE GDP; BUSINESS COSTS; REGULATORY REFORM; AVAILABILITY OF CAPITAL AND INVESTMENTS****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-16-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

FIRE! THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS BEEN OUSTED BY STATE CHAIRMAN RANDY VOLLER, AND DEMOCRATS HAVEN'T WASTED TIME IN REACTING. DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL CONSULTANT THOMAS MILLS TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ THAT VOLLER DOESN'T HAVE BROAD SUPPORT FROM DEMOCRATS AND THAT HIS ACTIONS ARE HURTING THE PARTY. THEN WE LOOK AT THIS WEEK'S CANDIDATE FILINGS IN THE WEEKLY INSTALLMENT OF "ON THE TRAIL." CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON TELLS MARTINEZ HOW SEVERAL KEY RACES ARE SHAPING UP AND A NEW POLL ABOUT THE IMPACT OF DEMOCRAT CLAY AIKEN'S CELEBRITY ON THE 2ND DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL RACE. HE ALSO DISCUSSES THE NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT JUSTICE WHO HAS FILED TO RUN FOR THE SEAT OF RETIRING CHIEF JUSTICE SARAH PARKER. NEXT IS A LOOK AT THE FUNDRAISING TALLIES OF THREE GOP CONTENDERS FOR THE U.S. SENATE NOMINATION. MATT BALES, RESEARCH DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION, PROVIDES THE LATEST NUMBERS FOR THOM TILLIS, GREG BRANNON, AND MARK HARRIS – ALL OF WHOM TRAIL SEN. KAY HAGAN BADLY IN THE MONEY GAME. BALES ALSO DISCUSSES HIS GROUP'S CANDIDATE TRACKER AND DISTRICT RATINGS. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY COMMENTS FROM GOV. PAT MCCRORY ABOUT HIS PROPOSAL TO RAISE BASE TEACHER PAY BY NEARLY 14 PERCENT OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS. MCCRORY WAS JOINED IN GUILFORD COUNTY BY LT. GOV. DAN FOREST, HOUSE SPEAKER TILLIS, AND SENATE LEADER PHIL BERGER. AND FINALLY, LT. GOV. FOREST TALKS ABOUT HOW HE GOT INTO POLITICS IN A RECENT INTERVIEW WITH DON CURTIS FOR CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS.

****ISSUES COVERED: LEADERSHIP IN THE NC DEMOCRATIC PARTY; ENDORSEMENTS FOR NC SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, THOM TILLIS; 2014 ELECTIONS; 2014 U.S. SENATE RACE FOR THE SEAT HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING; POLLING; ANALYSIS OF CLAY AIKEN'S RUN IN 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; FILINGS FOR THE 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOR THE SEAT VACATED BY MEL WATT; SENATE LEADER PHIL BERGER HAS FILED FOR RE-ELECTION; NC FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION; FUNDRAISING FOR THE 2014 U.S. SENATE RACE****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH JOHN HOOD", PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF THE JOHN LOCKE FOUNDATION

****ISSUES COVERED: TOBACCO SALES; "MINUTE" CLINICS; NORTH CAROLINA'S ECONOMY; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; UNEMPLOYMENT DROP IN NORTH CAROLINA TIED TO THE REDUCTION IN THE NC'S WORK FORCE; EMPLOYMENT/UNEMPLOYMENT; NC JOB GROWTH AND INCOME GROWTH; THE RECESSION'S EFFECT ON NC; INCENTIVES TO HELP RECRUIT BUSINESSES TO NORTH CAROLINA; NC CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; 2014 ELECTIONS; ANALYSIS OF THE 2ND, 7TH, 12TH, 6TH, CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT; "TEA PARTY" INVOLVEMENT IN NORTH CAROLINA; UNPOPULARITY OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND ITS EFFECT ON THE 2014 ELECTIONS IN NORTH CAROLINA****

PA BLOCK FOR 02-23-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

A CIVIL RULING GOES AGAINST A REPUBLICAN U.S. SENATE CANDIDATE IN NORTH CAROLINA, BUT THIS WEEK GREG BRANNON FILED FOR THE SEAT NOW HELD BY DEMOCRAT KAY HAGAN. THAT STORY TOPS THE "ON THE TRAIL" DISCUSSION BETWEEN HOST DONNA MARTINEZ AND CAROLINA JOURNAL'S RICK HENDERSON. THE TWO ALSO DISCUSS THE FUNDRAISING TOTAL FOR DEMOCRAT CLAY AIKEN, WHO'S SEEKING TO CHALLENGE GOP 2ND DISTRICT INCUMBENT RENEE ELLMERS, WHO THIS WEEK CONTINUED HER SUPPORT FOR AN IMMIGRATION REFORM PLAN THAT COULD ALLOW A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP FOR SOME ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, AS WELL AS BORDER SECURITY. MARTINEZ AND HENDERSON ALSO DISCUSS THE CROWDED FIELD OF CANDIDATES FOR THE 6TH DISTRICT SEAT AND AN UNEXPECTED NARRATIVE EMERGING IN THE GOP PRIMARY RACE BETWEEN DAVID ROUZER AND WOODY WHITE. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LOOK AT THE TURMOIL INSIDE THE STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY WITH WILLIAM PEACE UNIVERSITY POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR DR. DAVID MCLENNAN, WHO SAYS IT'S BAD NEWS FOR DEMOCRATS. MCLENNAN ALSO ASSESSES THE IMPACT OF A VERBAL ALTERCATION BETWEEN GOV. PAT MCCRORY AND A GROCERY STORE CLERK. THEN WE LOOK BACK AT THE ROLE PLAYED BY A NORTH CAROLINA POLITICIAN IN WATERGATE. RUFUS EDMISTEN WAS A KEY LEGAL AIDE TO SEN. SAM ERVIN, WHO LED THE SENATE COMMITTEE THAT INVESTIGATED WATERGATE. EDMISTEN TALKS TO PEOPLE IN POLITICS SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT PATRICK JOHNSON ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCE. EDMISTEN WILL BE PART OF A MUSEUM OF HISTORY EVENT ABOUT WATERGATE TO BE HELD LATER IN THE WEEK IN RALEIGH.

****ISSUES COVERED: DR. GREG BRANNON, CANDIDATE FOR U.S. SENATE IN NORTH CAROLINA, FACES ALLEGATIONS THAT HE MISLED INVESTORS IN A TECHNOLOGY COMPANY HE CO-FOUNDED; THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY 2014 ELECTIONS; CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING; OBAMACARE; POLLING AND THE PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL RATING; NC CONGRESSIONAL RACES INCLUDING THE 6TH DISTRICT FOR THE SEAT REPLACING HOWARD COBLE; THE 2ND DISTRICT FOR THE SEAT HELD BY RENEE ELLMERS; IMMIGRATION REFORM; ANALYSIS OF THE TEAM BEING FORMED BY CANDIDATE CLAY AIKEN; AND THE 7TH DISTRICT FOR THE SEAT GIVEN UP BY MIKE MCINTYRE; NC STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, ROY COOPER"

****ISSUES COVERED: SBI; NC COURT SYSTEM; CRIMINAL APPEALS; STATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES; LEGAL ACTION AGAINST THE STATE; DUKE ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT; CLEAN WATER INITIATIVES; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S CHANGES TO ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS; PUBLIC SAFETY; PUBLIC HEALTH; CLEAN AIR; TVA; SOUTHEASTERN STATES SHARING NATURAL RESOURCES; WATER POLLUTION; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; CLEANING UP LIVESTOCK LAGOONS; PROTECTING THE STATE'S GROUND WATER; ENCOURAGING RENEWABLE ENERGY; HYDRAULIC FRACTURING; OFFSHORE DRILLING; WEATHER-RELATED SCAMS; NATURAL DISASTERS; BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY; SPAM FILTERS AND VIRUSES; LEGITIMATE PRODUCTS VS. ILLEGITIMATE PRODUCTS; TECHNOLOGY HACKING; THE USE OF DNA SAMPLES IN EXONERATING INNOCENT PEOPLE AND CONVICTING CRIMINALS; FINGERPRINTING; DNA FOR VIOLENT FELONIES;

PA BLOCK FOR 03-02-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

IT'S OFFICIAL. THE CANDIDATE LIST IS FINALIZED AND THE MATCHUPS FOR MAY'S NORTH CAROLINA PRIMARY ELECTION ARE SET. TOM JENSEN OF PUBLIC POLICY POLLING JOINS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ TO TAKE THE PULSE OF THE STATE'S ELECTORATE ON THE U.S. SENATE RACE, KEY CONGRESSIONAL RACES, AND THE DEMOCRATS' PUSH TO REGAIN SEATS IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE. JENSEN ALSO LAYS OUT THE INTRIGUING FIGHT FOR CONTROL OF THE U.S. SENATE, WHICH COULD HINGE ON NORTH CAROLINA'S SEAT, NOW HELD BY DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT KAY HAGAN. THEN WE TURN TO THE CANDIDATE SLATE IN KEY RACES WITH THE WEEKLY "ON THE TRAIL" SEGMENT. CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON TELLS MARTINEZ THAT SEVERAL GOP INCUMBENTS ARE FACING CRITICISM FROM PRIMARY CHALLENGERS, AND THE TWO DISCUSS THE VERY CROWDED GOP FIELD FOR THE U.S. SENATE NOMINATION.

****ISSUES COVERED: POLLING; PUBLIC POLICY POLLING; IMPORTANCE OF THE MAY PRIMARIES IN NORTH CAROLINA; U.S. SENATE RACE FOR THE SEAT HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; AFFORDABLE CARE ACT; PRESIDENT OBAMA'S APPROVAL RATING VERY LOW IN N.C.; CAMPAIGN SPENDING; CONGRESSIONAL RACES

IN THE MAY PRIMARY; LEADERSHIP IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY; THE EFFECT OF "MORAL MONDAY"
PROTESTS ON 2014 ELECTIONS; ANALYSIS OF THE N.C. GOP****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH JUNE ATKINSON", SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FOR THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

****ISSUES COVERED: PUBLIC EDUCATION; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; NC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM; BULLYING AND SELF-DISCIPLINE; SPECIALIZATION OF DISCIPLINES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS; DECREASING POPULATION IN SOME COUNTIES CAUSING DIFFICULTIES IN EDUCATING STUDENTS IN THOSE COUNTIES; RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION; SUMMER READING PROGRAMS; AN ELECTED STATE SUPERINTENDENT COMPARED TO AN APPOINTED ONE; STANDARDIZED TESTS IN N.C.; END-OF-GRADE TESTING; STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; CHARTER SCHOOLS; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE "READ-TO-ACHIEVE" PROGRAMS****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-09-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

SORROW ENVELOPS NORTH CAROLINA'S POLITICAL WORLD WITH THE SUDDEN DEATH THIS WEEK OF SENATE MINORITY LEADER MARTIN NESBITT. THE BUNCOMBE COUNTY DEMOCRAT HAS STEPPED DOWN FROM HIS LEADERSHIP POST EARLY IN THE WEEK, BUT BY LATE IN THE WEEK, WORD CAME HE HAD DIED FROM COMPLICATIONS DUE TO STOMACH CANCER. SENATE MINORITY WHIP JOSH STEIN TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ WHY NESBITT WAS SO BELOVED AND WHAT HIS LEGACY IS LIKELY TO BE. STEIN, A DEMOCRAT WHO REPRESENTS WAKE COUNTY, ALSO DISCUSSES NESBITT'S IMPACT ON THE STATE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY. NEXT IS A LOOK AT THE PRIMARY ELECTION FOR LEGISLATIVE SEATS. MATT BALES, RESEARCH DIRECTOR OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION, TELLS MARTINEZ WHY SO MANY LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES HAVE WON THEIR SEATS WITHOUT ONE VOTE YET BEING CAST. THEN WE TURN TO FASCINATING POLLING DATA FROM THE LATEST ELON UNIVERSITY POLL. DR. KEN FERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR OF THE ELON POLL, GIVES MARTINEZ POLL RESULTS HE SAYS COULD SPELL TROUBLE FOR DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT KAY HAGAN, WHO IS SEEKING RE-ELECTION TO HER U.S. SENATE SEAT. AND FINALLY, WE GET THE LATEST ENDORSEMENTS IN RACES FOR CONGRESS FROM RICK HENDERSON OF CAROLINA JOURNAL, WHO TELLS MARTINEZ THAT POLITICAL ADVERTISING HAS ALSO TICKED UP AS CAMPAIGNING FOR THE PRIMARY BEGINS IN EARNEST.

****ISSUES COVERED: SUDDEN DEATH OF SENATE MINORITY LEADER MARTIN NESBITT; NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; BUNCOMBE COUNTY; SMALL BUSINESS CLIMATE IN NC; STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY; NC FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION; MAY PRIMARIES IN NC; NC DEMOCRATIC PARTY STRUCTURE; ELON UNIVERSITY POLL; POLLING NUMBERS FOR SENATOR KAY HAGAN; STATE REPUBLICAN PARTY; ANALYSIS OF U.S. CONGRESSIONAL RACES AND THE PRIMARIES IN MAY****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH BOB PHILLIPS", EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMON CAUSE NORTH CAROLINA

****ISSUES COVERED: DECREASING POPULATION IN SOME COUNTIES IN NC; EDUCATION AND THE STATE'S INFRASTRUCTURE; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; HYDRAULIC FRACTURING AND OFFSHORE DRILLING; NC TRAVEL AND TOURISM; GERRYMANDERING; REDISTRICTING; THE GROWTH OF UNAFFILIATED VOTERS IN N.C. AND ITS EFFECT ON THE ELECTION; 2014 ELECTIONS; LOBBYING; CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM; NC STATE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT; TERM-LIMITS; TURNOVER IN THE U.S. CONGRESS; ANALYSIS OF NC COUNCIL-OF-STATE DIVISIONS****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-16-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

ADVOCATES FOR REFORMING NORTH CAROLINA'S REDISTRICTING PROCESS THIS WEEK RENEWED THEIR CALLS FOR CHANGES. JANE PINSKY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COALITION FOR LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT REFORM TELLS HOST DONNA MARTINEZ THAT THE CANDIDATE FILINGS INITIATED THE CALL FOR CHANGE. PINSKY DETAILS THE NUMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE RACES THAT ARE NONCOMPETITIVE, OFFERS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TAKING POLITICS OUT OF THE DISTRICT LINES, AND OFFERS KUDOS TO REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT REDISTRICTING DESPITE ITS POTENTIAL TO LIMIT THE GOP'S POWER. THEN WE TURN TO CONTINUING TURMOIL INSIDE THE STATE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY. THIS WEEK PARTY CHAIRMAN RANDY VOLLER TOLD HIS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THE PARTY IS BROKE AND MAY HAVE TO SELL ITS HISTORIC DOWNTOWN RALEIGH HEADQUARTERS. DEMOCRATIC CONSULTANT THOMAS MILLS TELLS MARTINEZ THAT MANY IN THE PARTY HAVE LOST FAITH IN VOLLER AND THAT DONORS ARE FINDING OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT DEMOCRATS AND ARE BYPASSING THE PARTY. MILLS ALSO REACTS TO THE DEATH OF HIS FRIEND, SEN. MARTIN NESBITT OF BUNCOMBE COUNTY, AND EXPLAINS NESBITT'S COMMITMENT TO PROGRESSIVE CAUSES. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY MORE NEWS "ON THE TRAIL" WITH CAROLINA JOURNAL'S RICK HENDERSON. HENDERSON GIVES MARTINEZ THE LATEST ENDORSEMENTS IN THE U.S. SENATE RACE AND EXPLAINS WHY LOBBYIST DONATIONS TO THE 6TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDACY OF PHIL BERGER JR. ARE RAISING SOME EYEBROWS. HENDERSON ALSO PROFILES THE MAY 6 PRIMARY RACE FOR A SEAT ON THE NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT, WHERE THREE CANDIDATES ARE VYING FOR TWO SPOTS ON THE FALL BALLOT.

****ISSUES COVERED: REDISTRICTING AND REDISTRICTING REFORM; 2014 ELECTIONS; NC COALITION FOR LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT REFORM; "MORAL MONDAY" PROTESTS; UNCONTESTED RACES IN NORTH CAROLINA; REDRAWING ELECTION DISTRICTS; LEADERSHIP IN THE STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY; MAY PRIMARIES; CAMPAIGN SPENDING; LEADERSHIP IN THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH DR. MIKE WALDEN", WILLIAM NEAL REYNOLDS DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF AGRICULTURAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS AT NC STATE UNIVERSITY

****ISSUES COVERED: NORTH CAROLINA'S ECONOMY; ECONOMIC RECOVERY; JOB GROWTH; RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; RETIREES MOVING TO N.C.; MORE PEOPLE MOVING TO NORTH CAROLINA THAN LEAVING; NC CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY; NC TRAVEL AND TOURISM; INCOME INEQUALITY; CHANGES TO THE STATE TAX CODE; STATE AND FEDERAL TAXES; INCREASE IN FEDERAL TAX REVENUES; GAS TAXES; FUNDING STATE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS; BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-23-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

NORTH CAROLINIANS MAY NOT REALIZE THAT THE MAY 6 PRIMARY BALLOT INCLUDES A RACE BETWEEN THREE LEGAL BEAGLES SEEKING A SEAT ON THE NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT. THE TWO GARNERING THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF VOTES WILL FACE OFF IN THE FALL GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE SEAT ON THE HIGHEST COURT, NOW HELD BY JUSTICE ROBIN HUDSON. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ BEGINS HER LOOK AT THIS KEY JUDICIAL PRIMARY WITH A CONVERSATION WITH CANDIDATE JEANETTE DORAN, WHO DISCUSSES HER JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY, HER BACKGROUND, HER VIEW OF THE STATE'S CONSTITUTION, AND WHY SHE THINKS VOTERS SHOULD CAST A VOTE FOR HER, AHEAD OF HER CHALLENGERS, JUDGE ERIC LEVINSON AND JUSTICE ROBIN HUDSON. THEN WE TURN TO THIS WEEK'S CAMPAIGN TRAIL DEVELOPMENTS. CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON TELLS MARTINEZ ABOUT A VERBAL WAR OF WORDS THAT HAS ERUPTED BETWEEN REPUBLICAN SENATE PRIMARY CANDIDATES GREG BRANNON AND THOM TILLIS, AS WELL AS A LOOK AT A KEY SPEECH TO BE MADE IN MAY BY DEMOCRATIC INCUMBENT KAY HAGAN. HENDERSON ALSO DETAILS THE TENSE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TWO REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES SEEKING THE GOP NOMINATION FOR THE 7TH DISTRICT SEAT IN CONGRESS, AND UPDATES US ON THE LATEST STOPS FOR TWO DEMOCRATS – CLAY AIKEN AND KEITH CRISCO – IN THE RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION FOR THE 2ND DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL SEAT. THAT'S FOLLOWED BY A LOOK AT POLLING DATA ON THE SENATE AND CONGRESSIONAL RACES WITH TOM JENSEN OF PUBLIC POLICY POLLING. JENSEN TELLS MARTINEZ ABOUT HAGAN'S CHANCES FOR RE-ELECTION AND THE REPUBLICANS' CHANCES TO RETAIN CONTROL OF THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY. AND FINALLY, WE TURN TO REDISTRICTING. ADVOCATES FOR REFORMING NORTH CAROLINA'S REDISTRICTING PROCESS HAVE RENEWED THEIR CALLS FOR CHANGES. JANE PINSKY OF THE NORTH CAROLINA COALITION FOR LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT REFORM TELLS MARTINEZ THE CANDIDATE FILINGS INITIATED THE CALL

FOR CHANGE. PINSKY DETAILS THE NUMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE RACES THAT ARE NONCOMPETITIVE, OFFERS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TAKING POLITICS OUT OF THE DISTRICT LINES, AND OFFERS KUDOS TO REPUBLICAN LEGISLATORS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT REDISTRICTING DESPITE ITS POTENTIAL TO LIMIT THE GOP'S POWER.

****ISSUES COVERED: 2014 ELECTIONS; POLITICS AND POLITICAL PARTIES; NC MAY PRIMARIES; NC SUPREME COURT; NC STATE CONSTITUTION; ANALYSIS OF NC REPUBLICAN PRIMARY CANDIDATES; U.S. SENATE RACE FOR THE SEAT HELD BY SENATOR KAY HAGAN; CAMPAIGN SPENDING; 2ND DISTRICT AND 7TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL RACES; NC COALITION FOR LOBBYING AND GOVERNMENT REFORM; REDISTRICTING AND RE-DRAWING DISTRICT LINES AND TAKING POLITICS OUT OF THE PROCESS****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH TOM CAMPBELL", EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NC SPIN

****ISSUES COVERED: CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL ISSUES AND VALUES; NC POLITICS; PARTISAN POLITICS; ANALYSIS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MCCRORY ADMINISTRATION; THE ENVIRONMENT; EXPLORATION OF NEW ENERGY SOURCES AND RESOURCES; THE ART OF COMPROMISE; PAC-FUNDED CAMPAIGNS; BUILDING COALITIONS IN CONGRESS AND IN WASHINGTON; THE RECESSION AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY; NC'S CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY; MAY PRIMARIES AND THE 2014 ELECTION; U.S. SENATE RACE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY; UNAFFILIATED OR INDEPENDENT VOTERS; BROADCASTING AND THE MEDIA; TELEVISION NEWS SERVICES; THE INTERNET'S EFFECT ON FAIRNESS IN NEWS COVERAGE; THE ELECTION'S EFFECT ON THE NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY; MEDICAID AND THE STATE BUDGET****

PA BLOCK FOR 03-30-14

PEOPLE IN POLITICS

POLITICAL STUNNER THIS WEEK AND WE LEARN THAT CHARLOTTE MAYOR PATRICK CANNON WAS ARRESTED ON WEDNESDAY AND CHARGED WITH PUBLIC CORRUPTION FOLLOWING A MULTI-YEAR INVESTIGATION BY THE FBI. CANNON, A DEMOCRAT, RESIGNED HIS OFFICE LATE WEDNESDAY EVENING AFTER POSTING BOND. HE IS CHARGED WITH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ACCEPTING CASH IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE IN EXCHANGE FOR HELP WITH ZONING AND PERMITTING. HOST DONNA MARTINEZ GETS REACTION FROM DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL CONSULTANT THOMAS MILLS, WHO SAYS HE DOESN'T THINK CANNON'S TROUBLE WILL HAVE A BIG IMPACT ON THE 2014 ELECTIONS. TURNING TO CAMPAIGN NEWS, MARTINEZ AND MILLS THEN DISCUSS MILLS' CONTENTION THAT DEMOCRATS, INCLUDING KAY HAGAN, HAVE ADOPTED THE WRONG POLITICAL STRATEGY FOR THE 2014 CYCLE. MILLS EXPLAINS THAT THE "RED MEAT" MESSAGE ABOUT THE BILLIONAIRE KOCH BROTHERS' SUPPORT OF REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES ONLY RESONATES WITH PARTY FAITHFUL ALREADY PREPARED TO VOTE FOR DEMOCRATS. HE DISCUSSES WHAT HE THINKS HAGAN AND OTHER DEMOCRATS SHOULD DO INSTEAD. THEN WE TURN TO OUR LATEST CANDIDATE CONVERSATION. MARTINEZ TALKS WITH JUDGE ERIC LEVINSON, ONE OF THE THREE CANDIDATES ON THE PRIMARY BALLOT FOR A SEAT ON THE NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT. THE OTHERS ARE JEANETTE DORAN AND JUSTICE ROBIN HUDSON. LEVINSON TALKS ABOUT HIS BACKGROUND, HIS JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY, AND WHY HE WANTS TO SIT ON THE STATE'S HIGHEST COURT. NEXT IS A LOOK AT THE BIG STORIES "ON THE TRAIL" THIS WEEK WITH CAROLINA JOURNAL MANAGING EDITOR RICK HENDERSON. HE TELLS MARTINEZ WHY ONE REPUBLICAN JUDGE HAS RAISED QUESTIONS OVER HER QUEST FOR A SUPREME COURT SEAT, WHY CONGRESSMAN WALTER JONES IS FACING A TOUGH RE-ELECTION IN THE 3RD DISTRICT, AND WHY THE ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEGUN TO FLY BETWEEN WOODY WHITE AND DAVID ROUZER IN THE GOP PRIMARY FOR THE 7TH DISTRICT RACE.

****ISSUES COVERED: CHARLOTTE MAYOR ARRESTED FOR PUBLIC CORRUPTION AND RESIGNS AS MAYOR; FEDERAL THEFT AND BRIBERY; POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE 2014 ELECTIONS; POLITICAL ADVERTISING AND POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS; N.C. U.S. SENATE RACE IN 2014; NORTH CAROLINA SUPREME COURT; NC SUPERIOR COURT RACES; MAY PRIMARIES IN NORTH CAROLINA****

CAROLINA NEWSMAKERS

"INTERVIEW WITH LARRY WOOTEN", PRESIDENT OF NC FARM BUREAU

****ISSUES COVERED: STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS; THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE ON NORTH CAROLINA; THIS WINTER'S IMPACT ON THE WINTER WHEAT CROP AND THE SPRING PLANTING SEASON; PROPANE FUEL SHORTAGES; STATE'S ENERGY RESOURCES; IMMIGRATION REFORM; AGRICULTURAL LABOR SHORTAGES IN NORTH CAROLINA; UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS IN NORTH CAROLINA; STUDENT VISAS; WATER RESOURCES; CURRENT PRICES FOR CROPS; LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITIES; NEW RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE; THE GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE IN N.C.; POPULATION GROWTH IN N.C.; INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION; LABOR-INTENSIVE CROPS; THE CHRISTMAS TREE INDUSTRY****